

## Pre-season hooliganism bodes ill

BRITISH soccer began the run up to the season overhanging with hooliganism. A North Sea ferry from Harwich to the Hook of Holland had to return to Harwich when fighting and brawling broke out among drunken soccer spectators going to the Continent to watch pre-season friendlies by Manchester United and West Ham United. There were more incidents between police and the Manchester United fans after their team played a friendly against Ajax in Amsterdam. Three people were stabbed and several others injured and the lives of holidaymakers made a misery as the hooligans raged and fought about the boat.

The brawling has dashed hopes of an early return for English clubs to European club competitions, from which they were barred for three years following the tragedy in Brussels during the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus. Ted Croker, secretary of the Football Association, said that he was bitterly disappointed and disgusted by the incident which set back the reputation of English clubs in Europe.

Worse, in a sense, was to follow on the pitch when the Scottish season opened at the weekend. Glasgow Rangers saw their new manager, Graeme Souness, sent off against Hibernian after aiming a kick against a Hibernian player, McCluskey, who was carried off with an injured knee. Nine other

### By our own Reporter

players were booked when a brawl took place among most of the players. Rangers lost 2-1 to add misery to their day, especially after they had spent so much money in the pre-season building a new squad. Souness later apologised for his conduct but it will be difficult for him to recover credibility.

The Home Office minister, Mr Giles Shaw, rejected calls to introduce corporal punishment for soccer hooligans in response to the incidents.

Mr John Carlisle, the Conservative MP for Luton North and the chairman of the Tory backbench sports committee, said that the only way to deal with hooliganism was a "good and sound bashing" and a "long stiff sentence in a miserable prison".

Echoed by other rightwing backbench Conservatives, including Mr Peter Bruvels (Leicester East) and Mr Terry Dicks (Hayes and Harlington), Mr Carlisle said: "We have a lot to learn from the Middle East in this respect, and the Saudi Arabians in particular, where prisons are for punishment and not for rehabilitation. We need merciless, eye-for-an-eye punishment for retribution."

A spokesman for UEFA, the European football governing body, said that next month's meeting in Prague, might consider new sanctions on English clubs.

### Cricket County Table

	P	W	L	D	BT	BT	Pts
Gloucestershire (3)	18	9	4	5	40	51	225
Essex (4)	17	7	4	5	37	51	200
Surrey (6)	17	6	6	5	36	54	188
Leicestershire (10)	17	6	4	8	41	51	172
Hampshire (2)	16	6	4	7	38	50	168
Yorkshire (11)	16	4	10	20	40	46	168
Nottinghamshire (3)	16	4	2	10	44	53	161
Worcestershire (5)	17	4	5	8	42	50	156
Kent (9)	16	4	4	8	32	43	149
Northamptonshire (10)	16	4	2	10	40	38	142
Derbyshire (12)	16	4	4	8	30	44	141
Lancashire (14)	17	3	3	11	35	40	123
Somerset (17)	16	3	2	11	41	32	121
Sussex (7)	17	3	7	7	30	40	118
Warwickshire (19)	17	2	3	12	38	43	113
Middlesex (1)	17	3	9	7	28	32	87
Glamorgan (12)	17	1	5	11	31	34	81

1986 positions in brackets.

## Botham shows why he can't be ignored

IAN BOTHAM strode back on to cricket's centre stage last week after his two months' ban for smoking cannabis with two mighty flourishes of the bat that must have made the England team, floundering against New Zealand, ache for his presence. He could be back for the third and final Test and can hardly be excluded from the tour of Australia in the winter, for in his enforced absence no one else has made a durable stake for the England all-rounder role or for the middle order batting.

His return to first-class county championship cricket, came for Somerset against Worcestershire and there was an air of inevitability that he would make a century. And so it came to pass — in only 64 minutes and off 65 balls, with seven sixes and nine fours. All the shots were there with beefy magnificence, especially the lofted straight drives. It wasn't the highest score in the match — Botham's teammate, Roebuck, hit 147 in the second innings, his highest ever score — and his bowling still has some way to go, but it was enough to satisfy the cricketing nation that he was back and winning, for Somerset took the match by five wickets.

Having announced that he was back he then fell victim of a stomach bug for the following match, but had recovered in time for Somerset's match at Northamptonshire in the Sunday League. The occasion was eventually washed out by rain without a result, but not before the crowd at Wellingborough School had seen one of the greatest innings ever in limited-over cricket.

But for an interruption for rain, which cost him an over, he could well have surpassed the competition's record knock of 176 by Graham Gooch. As it was he hit 175 not out of Somerset's 272 for five, hitting a competition record 13 sixes on the way, as well as 12 fours. It was the highest innings by a Somerset player in limited-over cricket and was by common consent anything but a carefree Sunday slog. It was worked from humble beginnings against an en-

thusiastic attack with their tail up after dismissing Viv Richards cheaply.

Not until he was 60 did he launch Harper's off-spin over long on for his first six, but thereafter he was murderous. He reached his 100 in 87 balls, the second 50 in 28 with only another 29 to the 150. One mighty six cleared a line of

### Alan Dunn's DIARY

trees beyond the boundary, a road fringing the ground and a factory wall on the other side of the road.

The irony of the occasion was that the rain came and the match was declared a no result with both sides taking two points. Through the combination of bad weather and contrived finishes elsewhere, this was enough to send Northamptonshire to the top of the league with 36 points, two better than Essex.

Somerset, by the way, have held an inquiry into an incident of racial abuse during the match against Worcestershire, when Viv Richards, the West Indian captain, strode into the crowd to identify a spectator making abusive comments. Somerset said that they would take a stronger line over evicting and barring racist agitators and drunks from matches and to advise players not to become involved because of the risk of personal injury.

If it was the week of the big comeback it also saw the rise of yet

another of the season's golden oldies. This time it was Ken Higgs, the former England pace bowler who played with Lancashire and Leicestershire. Now aged 49 and a coach at Leicester, he was pressed into service against Yorkshire because of injuries in the rest of the squad. He came on when Yorkshire were 60 without loss and went on to take five for 22, the fiftieth time he has taken five wickets in an innings. Higgs began his career with Lancashire in 1958 and played for England 15 times.

England would have loved someone with his penetrative bowling powers during their second Test against New Zealand at Trent Bridge, Nottingham. Instead it was a "local" boy, Richard Hadlee, who won all the applause... only he plays for New Zealand as well as Nottinghamshire. He had a brilliant all-rounder role throughout a match bolstered by bad light and rain.

He began with yet another superb demonstration of the art of pace bowling from that smooth and economical run-up. In the closing moments of the day to leave England struggling on 31 for one. Only 75 minutes play was possible on a rain-affected fourth day, but England went on to lose Moxon and Athey to finish at 64 for three with a draw now seeming inevitable.

GOLF: David Davies reports from Toledo, Ohio

## Brilliant Tway

BOB TWAY, with a burst of barely credible brilliance, won the US PGA Championship at Inverness, Toledo, on Monday. By holing a bunker shot for a birdie at the last he snatched a title, his first major, that for 67 holes had seemed destined for Greg Norman.

Tway, who was constantly in trouble on the final two holes, produced two magical shots to recover, finishing with an eight-under-par total of 278, two ahead of Norman who finished with a five-over-par 283.

The way Tway played the 18th seemed designed to ensure that the championship went to Norman. He hit a dreadful too-shot which buried itself in deep rough on the right. A watching Jack Nicklaus

observed that Tway would find it almost impossible to hit the green from where he was, and to get his ball into a bunker 10 yards short of the pin. With Norman in a good position on the fairway it seemed likely that the Australian, who had lost a four-stroke lead during the course of the round, would in fact win his second major title inside a month. Even when his second hit the green and spun back off he was still favourite, because Tway had to play a shot which demanded extraordinary delicacy.

But from the moment he hit it the shot was obviously a good one, and when it trickled into the hole bedlam broke out.

In fact, Tway had brought off another near miracle shot, also at the 17th. Again he had pushed the ball this time to the right of the green, and it was impossible to see his ball even from a yard away. The odds were heavily on Tway either leaving the ball in the rough or sculling it across the green. Instead he managed to get it out to two feet to save his par.

Norman, though, really could only blame himself for being in a position to lose the championship. He had started four ahead of Tway and, as he said later, it came down to a form of match play between them.

with Rene Arnoux's Ligier. Mansell led home a strong British contingent among the ten finishers. Johnny Dumfries earned his first championship points after an impressive and competitive run in his Lotus into fifth place, half a minute ahead of Martin Brundle whose Tyrrell was without fourth gear for the last 30 laps.

Derek Warwick had been running ahead of Brundle when he was hit from behind by the Ferrari of Michele Alboreto, both drivers retiring as a result.

Jonathan Palmer might have taken the final scoring place, but bringing his Zakspeed home after a long delay to bleed overheating brakes was an achievement almost as worthy as the successful running of the first grand prix in an Eastern bloc country.

In fact, Tway had brought off another near miracle shot, also at the 17th. Again he had pushed the ball this time to the right of the green, and it was impossible to see his ball even from a yard away. The odds were heavily on Tway either leaving the ball in the rough or sculling it across the green. Instead he managed to get it out to two feet to save his par.

Norman, though, really could only blame himself for being in a position to lose the championship. He had started four ahead of Tway and, as he said later, it came down to a form of match play between them.

World Championship Standings: 1. Mansell, 54pts; 2. Senna, 48.3; Piquet, 47.4; Prost (Fr), 44; 5. Rosberg (FR), 18; 6. Agazzi, Lahti (Fr) and Arnoux (Fr), 14; 7. Brundle, 12; Dumfries, 2.

• Eddie Lawson won the Swedish Grand Prix and his second world championship in convincing style on his Team Agostini Yamaha at Anderstorp. Although the Australian Wayne Gardner pushed the Californian as hard as he could on his Honda the Yamaha was clearly too fast.

Mike Baldwin was third on his race-long battle with Lawson's team-mate Rob McElnea.

# THE GUARDIAN

## WEEKLY

Vol. 135 No. 8 Week ending August 24, 1986

## Russia extends test freeze

Mr Gorbachev is extending the Soviet Union's year-old moratorium on nuclear testing till the end of 1986. In a television broadcast the Soviet leader challenged President Reagan, now enjoying a six-week holiday on his California ranch, to sign a treaty banning all nuclear testing if and when they meet later this year. The State Department and White House spokesmen immediately rejected any comparable American moratorium, describing Mr Gorbachev's offer as "propaganda."

## Time to respond positively to Gorbachev

IF there has been an argument in the Kremlin about whether to continue the unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing, then it has been won for the time being by those who remember the truism that the purpose of a deterrent is to deter. It is a truism from which the United States has gone off on its own Star Wars tangent, and one which the British government consistently overlooks in its pursuit of the Trident programme.

Before Mr Gorbachev announced his moratorium a year ago, with subsequent extensions even though there was no reciprocity from the United States, he did so after a brisk series of tests had satisfied the military that their weaponry was in working order. One purpose in testing is to take a sample from the stockpile to ensure that it has not for some reason degraded. But suppose it has? How is the other side to know? Each superpower has to assume that enough of its adversary's arsenal is operational to deter it from making a first strike. That there may be an element of uncertainty in the case of a few missiles makes no difference to a calculation of the risk.

Mr Gorbachev can thus afford to pile on to the United States (and Britain and France) the odium which is increasingly attached to nuclear testing. The Congress is more aware than the White House of the damage which testing — and not only testing, but the threat to introduce a new generation of chemical weapons and the fixation with Star Wars — does to the US bargaining position. Last week the House of Represen-

tatives voted by 255 to 152 to restrict all these favoured Presidential and Pentagon projects in what the arms control lobby in the House described as the most significant breakthrough in 12 years. Mr Reagan sees it otherwise. At the weekend he accused the House of giving Moscow what it had failed to pay for at Geneva. Since the House vote was not binding he can expect a different language to emerge from a joint Senate-House conference on the arms budget next month. But the damage has already been done. On the matters on its agenda last week the House agreed with Gorbachev and not with Reagan.

One reason for this is that random sample testing is no longer the main reason for the underground explosions in Nevada. If it

### Report, page 6

were, the US could rely on the same principle of deterrence (ie, the principle of uncertainty) which Gorbachev must have meant. Challenger and Chernobyl, he said on Monday, show we have not yet passed the technological test. Gorbachev is the first leader on either side to recognise the futility of trying to add to a virtually infinite capacity for destruction. He is making no sacrifice. If he were he would soon be out of office. He is answering the American call for "deeds, not words" in an effective manner, and is entitled to ask the Americans — as the House of Representatives has recognised — to respond likewise. The time may come when he is overborne by his own military lobby, but the logic of his present position will still remain intact.

It would be rash to put words into Mr Gorbachev's mouth or thoughts into his head. But whereas his predecessors (and he himself, more sotto voce) have insisted that the Soviet Union will never permit Ameri-

## Getting at the truth

The British Government is trying to prevent publication of a book about the secret service, M15. In an attempt to prevent Sir Robert Armstrong (left), head of the civil service, having to answer awkward questions on oath in a New South Wales court, the Government last week admitted for court purposes that the allegations contained in it were true, including the claim that the late Sir Roger Hollis (right), head of M15, had been a Soviet spy. But law officers were at pains to make it clear that the Government did not admit the truth of the allegations except for Court purposes. (Full report, page 4).



Sir Robert Armstrong, head of the civil service.



The late Sir Roger Hollis.

## Only making things worse

THOSE who predicted trouble on the 39th anniversary of Pakistan's independence have been proved right. The arrest in Karachi under a 30-day detention order of Benazir Bhutto for defying a ban on political meetings became tediously predictable as soon as the government restricted her to the city, banned rallies and rounded up hundreds of her supporters earlier in the week in an attempt to defuse rising tension. In the light of these preparatory moves by the authorities there need be no speculation about an individual police commander acting in an excess of zeal while General Zia ul-Haq was away on a pilgrimage to Mecca. A confrontation became only a matter of time, and not much of it, after the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, the uneasy opposition alliance, got its act together at the beginning of the month.

The MRD delivered an ultimatum to General Zia to announce a democratic election by September 20 and to hold it by the end of the year. The "or else" — that he would have to contend with a "peaceful democratic movement" — sounds weak but was the best that such an organisation could do. The significance of the demand lay in the fact that it was endorsed by the largest and most important component of the MRD, the Pakistan People's Party led by Miss Bhutto. She was not at the meeting which led to it, adding to the suspicion of other MRD elements that she was not committed to the alliance, and she had been pushing for an autumn election ever since her return to the country in April. But she accepted the later deadline by telephone and the Movement became at a stroke something that had to be taken more seriously than hitherto. Before the crucial MRD meeting in Lahore, which was also a scene of unrest last week, the PPP had stood alone in its call for early elections.

With the entire political spectrum from religious conservatives to leftist revolutionaries united behind the campaign for an election within five months, the generals and the fundamentalist mullahs who support Zia are faced with a sharper dilemma than at any time since the fall of Miss Bhutto's father nine years ago. But the nature of the dilemma is essentially the same as it has been throughout Pakistan's history: how viability as a modern state is to be reconciled with the ideal which led to its foundation as a secular Muslim democracy. There is also a dilemma for Washington as

Continued on page 10

## INSIDE

- Climbers die on K2..... 5, 10
- All clear for the Contras..... 8
- Corruption — Soviet and US style..... 9
- Getting late to save S. Africa..... 15
- Geoffrey Taylor in Littlondale..... 19



## Recipe for SA disaster

Joe Slovo's strategy for Socialist change in South Africa (August 17) is a recipe for disaster for the South African proletariat.

Slovo sees a natural link between national liberation and social emancipation, but nevertheless draws a distinction between the two. The significance of this becomes clear when he suggests that with the end of apartheid, a mixed economy, including non-monopoly private enterprise will prevail. From thence, apparently, we will attain a state of affairs propitious to socialism. Slovo, then, advocates a "staged" approach to the question of socialism in South Africa.

To arrive at such a conclusion necessitates the existence of at least a progressive wing of the bourgeoisie. But the search for a progressive bourgeoisie in South Africa is the utmost folly as the black South African masses realised long ago.

Lenin, whom Slovo is fond of quoting, never tired of laying the blame on the class collaborationist approach and was consistent in opposing a united democratic front, with the total exclusion of all sections of the bourgeoisie, to the nefarious ideas of "popular frontism". What would he think of Slovo's and the South

African Communist Party's support for a "popular front" in South Africa today?

If the black workers' movement in South Africa is held back by attempts to limit itself to a "national democratic" stage, and if the expropriation of the bourgeoisie is not completed, then the stage will be set for a bloody counter-revolution. In the event of this, the South African Communist Party must bear full responsibility.

Mark Underwood,  
Falcott Road,  
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

## Danger on the move

Two years ago in the wake of the Mont Louis disaster Sealink, then owned by British Rail, banned the transport of uranium hexafluoride. One might assume that the transport of this nuclear material by cross Channel ferries had ceased. Unfortunately this is not the case. The Dieppe-Newhaven route is now French operated and uranium hexafluoride is once more being carried.

Three Tuesdays out of five the Gonderand transport firm bring shipments of uranium hexafluoride from the French uranium enrichment plant at

Pierrelatte in the Rhone valley which are delivered to British Nuclear Fuels works at Springfields, near Preston.

The lorry and its nuclear cargo have been seen to travel upon either the passenger ferry Chantilly or the freight-only Marie Evangeline.

Although Dieppe-Newhaven ferries are now French-operated, passengers travelling on them will have booked their tickets in the UK via Sealink who advertise the service in their brochures and timetables.

Two years ago Sealink gave assurances that they would not transport nuclear cargoes. Will they now confirm those assurances and that they will now be extending them to cover services where they are acting as agents?

Gregory Taylor,  
Green Party Council,  
Saltdean, Brighton.

## Liverpool libelled

According to all other media reports the violence on the Harwich-Hook of Holland ferry occurred when so-called supporters of Manchester United and West Ham United clashed, yet your Leader (August 17) clearly implies that supporters of Liverpool and Everton were involved. Is it the intention of the Guardian to incite Merseyside whenever and wherever football violence occurs?

F. Septon,  
Chairman, Liverpool FC Supporters Club,  
(London Branch),  
London NW1.

Yet by contrast, the second cornerstone of imperialism is the

## Testing time for the West, trying time for Moscow

Your Leader (August 17) was right to hold that the East-West arms talks really matter. But the article was gratuitously dismissive of the nuclear test explosions issue.

Though the discussions "have a potentially unlimited agenda, they will need to cut it down to what is immediately practicable (thereby probably excluding underground tests, on which the US is adamant)," the editorial says.

Yet only a few days earlier the House of Representatives voted by almost two to one for a 12-month moratorium on the underground explosions. It seems to many of us that a comprehensive test ban is the most definite and the least complicated of all the issues coming before the negotiators.

The previous argument that such tests could not be verified has been completely disposed of, as the American scientists now in Soviet Russia are showing. If the Western tests continue it is likely that the East will resume theirs. However, Mr Gorbachev has said he will consider extending their moratorium if Washington and London behave.

The people of the three nations involved, America, Britain and Russia, have overwhelmingly indicated their wish for agreement on this issue. Only the political will at the top is missing.

Frank Allain,  
Manchester.

Your Leader on the Moscow arms control talks makes a number of fair points, but does not

## The soldiers' crime

You report (August 10) that 111 Gurkhas, all members of the 7th Duke of Edinburgh Rifles were dismissed from the British Army and sent back to Nepal. For what crime? For failing to cooperate with their CO in refusing to name guilty colleagues. But since when has it become a crime under British law not to cooperate with the prosecution?

No, this was not the reason, the soldiers' crime was of a far more serious nature. They had bonded together, when their loyalty should have been to the officer, the cornerstone of imperialism.

Yet by contrast, the second cornerstone of imperialism is the

underline the essential one: The path President Reagan appears to be set on — to judge by the leaks of his latest letter to Mikhail Gorbachev — cannot lead to a new summit.

To put it bluntly, suggestions that the President has made a great compromise on disarmament are sheer lies. Rather, it is still pursuing the same old goal of securing strategic superiority.

For example, if Washington really wants strategic stability, it would have to do far more to stop the arms race spreading into space. Its readiness to observe the ABM treaty for only another seven years only covers the time it needs anyway to switch over from research to the deployment of attack space systems.

A serious approach to cutting offensive weaponry means banning all attack space weapons and, as a transitional stage, strictly abiding by the ABM treaty for at least another 15 to 20 years.

Furthermore, the US President is ignoring all demands to halt nuclear testing and join the unilateral Soviet moratorium. This blocks another route to slowing down the arms race and moving towards nuclear disarmament.

All this makes claims that the "ball is now in Moscow's court" ridiculous, the "ball" — humanity's future — remains where it was, awaiting the serious consideration of the US President.

Spartak Beglov,  
Novosti Press Agency,  
4 Zubovskiy Boulevard,  
Moscow.

## Villagers bar test drillers

HUNDREDS of families from three villages in different counties on Monday prevented contractors from starting test drilling for the dumping of nuclear waste by the Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Executive, Nirex.

Nirex is expected to seek an injunction to gain access to the sites at Killingholme on Humberside, Elstow in Bedfordshire, and Fulbeck in Lincolnshire. Drilling is planned to begin at a fourth site, at Bradwell in Essex, in two weeks' time.

James Wood,  
Bracknell, Berks.

## Attacking racism in all its forms

As an admirer of your reporter Hugo Young, and no admirer of Mrs Thatcher, I must none the less take issue with Mr Young's suggestion (July 20) that it is patronising of Mrs Thatcher to annoy police states by referring to their censorship, detention without trial, and racism.

Mrs Thatcher's strictures against some Commonwealth (and other) countries make good sense. Malaysia's laws are blatantly racist. Bangladesh suffers an open military dictatorship. In Pakistan — like South Africa — a former Commonwealth member — it is a capital crime to offend the mullahs.

Not that any of this excuses Mrs Thatcher's de facto support for the Pretoria regime. South Africa is a racist police state and for various reasons there is a large measure of agreement to put the boot into it. Its supporters and opponents are being counted.

For the world, the defeat of tyranny in South Africa would serve as a spur for similar pressure on other racist and/or police states (including those to which Mrs Thatcher was obviously referring).

And for South Africa itself the defeat of the Boer tribal dictatorship will be only the beginning of the long struggle to break up tribalism in the region and replace it with respect for individual rights.

Dion E. Giles,  
Cottesloe,  
Western Australia.

Hugo Young's "interview" with Margaret Thatcher comes over as a disappointing example of investigative journalism. The strength of an interview lies in the ability of the questioner to draw something of interest and perhaps even controversy out of his quarry. This repatriate (be it live or in print) puts both parties under the pressure to react to one another and produces something worth our attention. It shows a relatively little skill to arrange the matter of an interview after the event to suit one's own purposes.

Through his knowing asides and frequent alternation between direct and indirect speech Mr Young has used this opportunity simply to illustrate his own subjective anti-Thatcher feelings. We read some of Mrs Thatcher's opinions and learn something more about her personality, but only on his terms.

Such interjections as "Mrs Thatcher deployed the quiet voice of incredulous affront" or "The voice was shaking now at this spectacle of a continent which displayed such inexplicable moral inconsistencies" or "Pause" or worse still (on tax cuts) "I have not put any of that on paper because it sounded like the record you've heard a hundred times before" satisfy only Mr Young's desire to add a little cheap theatre as well as showing more than a little arrogance on his part.

Perhaps Mr Young could take note of the weekly interview in Der Spiegel or Le Monde where the text is printed in its entirety. Let Mrs Thatcher's words stand by themselves. They are damning enough. We would then be left to draw our own conclusions. We shouldn't need a running commentary.

G. Johns,  
Holbeinweg 31,  
7 Stuttgart 1.

## Freedom of information act wanted

By David Rose

TWO-THIRDS of voters favour a Freedom of Information Act, according to an opinion poll released on Monday, the 75th anniversary of the passage of the "catch all" section two of the Official Secrets Act.

The poll, carried out by MORI for the Campaign for the Freedom of Information, sampled 1,909 voters in 172 constituencies between July 4 and 8. It found that 65 per cent supported the introduction of an information bill, subject to adequate safeguards for national security, crime and personal privacy. Twenty-three per cent were opposed and 11 per cent expressed no opinion.

Only 25 per cent of Conservative voters opposed the proposal, with 69 per cent in favour, and higher proportional support across party lines among men and young people.

At a press conference called to launch the poll Mr Des Wilson, the campaign chairman, said that the poll demonstrated an overwhelming consensus against section two, which had been repeatedly shown to be unworkable.

He cited the cases of the former civil servants Mr Clive Ponting and Ms Sarah Tisdall, both of whom were present. The Government had admitted that neither had leaked information damaging to national security, and it could be surmised that their prosecutions in 1984 had been undertaken only for reasons of embarrassment; but this in turn had caused further political disaffection.

The current case of Mr Peter Wright whose allegations concerning illegal activity by MI5 were admitted to be true in an Australian court last week — but which the Guardian has been prevented from repeating — were only the latest example of the many absurdities and evils of official secrecy, Mr Wilson said. People could now read Mr Wright's disclosures anywhere in the world but Britain. (Report, page 4.)

## Villagers bar test drillers

HUNDREDS of families from three villages in different counties on Monday prevented contractors from starting test drilling for the dumping of nuclear waste by the Nuclear Industry Radioactive Waste Executive, Nirex.

Nirex is expected to seek an injunction to gain access to the sites at Killingholme on Humberside, Elstow in Bedfordshire, and Fulbeck in Lincolnshire. Drilling is planned to begin at a fourth site, at Bradwell in Essex, in two weeks' time.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

	Starting Rate August 18	Previous Closing Rate
Australia	2,388.2-2,395.5	2,388.2-2,405.5
Austria	21.92-21.93	21.75-21.74
Belgium	63.77-63.81	63.70-63.80
Canada	2,079.1-2,082.0	2,073.7-2,073.7
Denmark	11.88-11.89	11.86-11.86
France	10.04-10.05	10.01-10.02
Germany	3.08-3.09	3.07-3.08
Hong Kong	11.88-11.88	11.83-11.85
Ireland	1,125.1-1,135.1	1,120.2-1,129.2
Italy	2,184.1-2,194.1	2,177.2-2,181.2
Japan	229.77-230.15	229.00-230.00
Netherlands	3.47-3.48	3.46-3.47
Norway	10.94-10.95	10.93-10.93
Portugal	216.24-217.05	217.35-218.02
Spain	168.55-169.04	168.84-200.20
Sweden	10.33-10.35	10.34-10.35
Switzerland	2,480-2,489	1,480-2,480
USA	1,480-1,489	1,480-1,489
ECU	1,487-1,495	1,489-1,497

FT 30 Share Index: 1279.5 Gold: \$377.70

## Up and up go the dole queues

The week in Britain by James Lewis

IN the 1983 general election campaign the Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, persuaded the electorate that she needed another term in office to beat inflation and bring down unemployment by creating "real" jobs. Inflation — down last month to 2.4 per cent, the lowest since 1967 — is all but beaten, but unemployment jumped by another 50,000 to reach a record July figure of 3.2 million.

After taking into account the 128,000 jobless school-leavers who are not entitled to claim benefit, and another 60,000 excluded by various statistical changes, the total unemployed is 95,000 greater than it was a year ago, after what is supposed to have been a period of economic growth. Even Ministers no longer hold out any prospect of improvement. The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, actually expects unemployment to go on rising because of what he euphemistically calls "the pause".

While Mr Lawson implies that the "pause" is the prelude to resumed economic growth, the City talks of deflation and an impending recession. Tory Party managers decided that the answer was to give the Prime Minister a "softer image", so Mrs Thatcher was pictured walking a dog along a holiday beach in Cornwall, where the Government last month invested £15 million — apparently with the encouragement of Prince Charles — to save what remains of the tin-mining industry.

While Government action has undoubtedly reduced the high rate of inflation which the Conservatives inherited in 1979, the most recent falls have been to factors — such as seasonal drops in food prices and lower petrol prices — for which Ministers can claim no credit. Earnings, however, continue to rise at an underlying 7.5 per cent, which suggests that next year's inflation rate will be at least 3.5 per cent.

Disaffection over Mrs Thatcher's economic policies does not guarantee an election victory for Labour, which is engaged, as ever, in fratricidal conflict. At next month's Trades Union Congress, and at the Labour Party conference which follows it, the party leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, is likely to be at odds with, and could be defeated by, some of the big unions over the crucial issue of strike ballots.

Mr Kinnock wants a future Labour government to uphold the legal right of workers to have secret ballots before they can be called out on strike by their unions. This right, conferred by the hated "Tebbit law" of 1984, has undoubtedly curbed the power of union leaders and reduced the number of strikes, but some of the big left-dominated unions are mobilising to sweep away what they see as "anti-union" law and could well deny Mr Kinnock his wish to approach an election year with peaceful and uncontroversial conferences to demonstrate the closeness of Labour's partnership with the unions.

For the first time, Labour is making a determined pitch for the "Green" vote — about three million strong — with an environmental programme to encourage organic farming (which would employ a larger rural workforce) and to squeeze the incomes of rich farmers by transferring resources from prices support to protecting the environment and helping poorer farmers. At the moment, however, Labour does not hold a single rural parliamentary seat in England, and would need a sizeable electoral swing in its favour to win one because most of the politically active Greens support the Ecology Party or the Liberal/SDP Alliance.

The week in Britain by James Lewis

Post-mortem examinations of three former workers at the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant in Cumbria disclosed concentrations of plutonium which were hundreds — and, in one case, thousands — of times higher than those in the general population. Research by the National Radiological Protection Board found that even Cumbrians who had never worked in the nuclear industry had plutonium levels ranging from 50 to 250 per cent above the average elsewhere in Britain.

British Nuclear Fuels, Limited, the state-owned company which runs Sellafield, said the levels found were "still very small indeed" and did not indicate that anybody's health would suffer in consequence.

British Airways, which is buying a new fleet of jumbo jets from Boeing, decided to power them with Rolls-Royce engines rather than engines offered by America's General Electric and Pratt and Whitney. The order, worth £800 million, will secure the future of the Rolls-Royce workforce until the end of the decade. The significance of the purchase may well lie in the fact that BA and

Rolls, both state-owned, are due to be privatised next year. For the privatisation to succeed, Rolls needs a healthy order book and BA needs to be free of political controversy.

The police and the army faced a series of clashes with Catholic and Protestant youths when 20,000 Loyalists marched through Londonderry in the annual Apprentice Boys' parade. A public house and a row of shops were wrecked, a number of people were injured, and police had to resort once again to the use of plastic bullets. While the two sides were skirmishing in Derry, the IRA demolished a police station in County Tyrone by ramming it with a road-digger packed with 300 pounds of explosives. Six people were injured.

There were more clashes in Dundalk, in the Irish Republic, when Mr Peter Robinson, an Ulster MP, appeared in court there to answer charges arising from a Loyalist incursion into the republic the previous week. A group of about fifty Loyalists, who had accompanied Mr Robinson to the hearing, was attacked with bottles, stones and petrol bombs when they attempted to hold a religious service in the main street of the town.

## The sea eagles breed again

By Gareth Parry

A PAIR of white-tailed sea eagles which produced a chick for the first time last year, have bred two more, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said last week.

The birds, which first attempted to breed in 1983, have been guarded round-the-clock by RSPB wardens at a secret site in the west of Scotland.

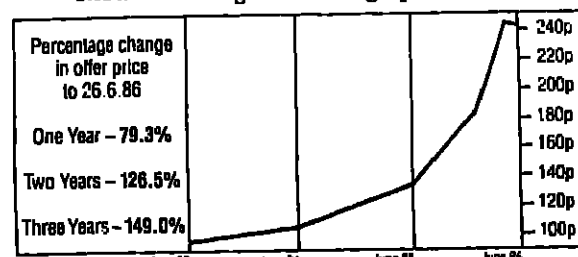
Sheep farmers suspecting the sea eagle of killing lambs, used to shoot, trap and poison the birds, but contemporary studies indicate that the sea eagle, like its cousin the golden eagle, only rarely attacks sheep.

It can achieve an eight-foot wing span and hunts small to medium-size animals, mostly birds and fish, although it also eats carrion.

The sea eagle has been re-introduced to Scotland by the Nature Conservancy Council. The project began in 1975, and over a 10-year period the RAF flew 82 eagles from Norway to Scotland, where they were released into the wild on the island of Rhum.

# Still worth investing in Europe? Why we say: Yes!

Over the past three years, the Jersey-based Tyndall European Fund Limited has been a very rewarding investment. Our knowledge and expertise has enabled the Fund to show dramatic gains, as the graph shows.



Now we believe this expertise to be more necessary than ever.

Markets in continental Europe are more volatile than they have been for several years. Some indeed have shown substantial falls, whilst others have continued to rise strongly. Such a situation could leave the unwary investor at risk. However Tyndall's European portfolio managers are able to take advantage of these situations by anticipating market trends.

We liquidate holdings where necessary and increase investment where growth continues. We believe that the experience gained as managers of one of the longest established European funds should ensure that the Tyndall European Fund Limited will continue to be a sound long-term investment and presents investors with an ideal opportunity to participate in the continued growth of the continental European economies.

Learn of our views on the potential of all continental European markets by reading our Investment Review. We'll send you a copy, free, together with details of the Tyndall European Fund Limited if you return the coupon below. Or phone Jersey (0534) 37331.

To: Tyndall Guardian Managers (Jersey) Limited,  
Dept GIV 24/8, 2 New Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.  
Please send me details of Tyndall European Fund Limited, and a free copy of your Investment Review.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in income distributed ☐ Reinvested ☐

**TYNDALL EUROPEAN FUND LIMITED**

## THE GUARDIAN WEEKLY

August 24, 1986

Vol. 135 No. 8

Copyright © 1986 by Guardian Publications Ltd., 119 Farringdon Road, London, England. All rights reserved. Letters to the Editor and other editorial correspondence to: The Guardian Weekly, PO Box 16, Cheshire, Cheshire, S12 1SD, England.  
Subscription enquiries to the Circulation Manager, The Guardian Weekly, 164 Deansgate, Manchester, M60 2TH, England.  
Advertisement enquiries to the Advertisement Manager, The Guardian Weekly, 119 Farringdon Road, London, England.

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES** PAYABLE IN ADVANCE  
United Kingdom, Eire £28.00  
AIR EDITION: Europe £32.00; Middle East, North Africa £32.50;  
Americas, Africa (except North), Asia, Malaysia, Indonesia £35.50;  
Australia, Far East, Pacific £36.50.

Let us send a GIN Subscription to your friend — and a GIN Card with your best wishes.  
To: Circulation Manager, The Guardian Weekly,  
164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2TH, England.  
Please mail The Guardian Weekly for one year to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ SC1

Subscription ordered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Address if not as above \_\_\_\_\_  
I enclose payment of £ \_\_\_\_\_  
Holders of Visa Access, MasterCard, and American Express cards may have subscriptions charged to their accounts.  
\*Please debit my Visa Access/MasterCard/American Express

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_



# 'Truth' and consequences about MI5

By Richard V. Hall in Sydney and John Carvel in London

THE British Government, in its efforts to prevent the publication in Australia of the memoirs of a former MI5 officer, admitted last week that the serious allegations of criminality he makes against the security service are true.

The New South Wales Supreme Court heard that, "for the purpose of these proceedings and not otherwise," the British Government accepted that claims by Mr Peter Wright in a book that Heimann Australia is seeking to publish, and claims by another former MI5 officer, Ms Cathy Massiter, on a television programme shown in Australia, were accurate. These include the claim that the late Sir Roger Hollis, former head of MI5, was a Soviet spy.

However, the British Government's law officers in London insisted later that "except for the limited procedural purposes of this case, the Government does not admit the truth of any of the allegations in Mr Wright's book relating to the activities or personnel of the security services. In particular, the Government's position in relation to the late Sir Roger Hollis remains as stated by the Prime Minister in her statement in the House of Commons on March 26, 1981." Mrs Thatcher then told MPs that an inquiry had concluded that Sir Roger had not been an agent of the Russian intelligence service, although this was impossible to prove.

The extraordinary concession made at a pre-trial hearing in Sydney about whether the British Government should answer certain interrogatories (147 written ques-

tions from the defendants) means that when the full trial takes place in November the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robert Armstrong, chief witness for the Government, will seek to establish that in the public interest the book should not be published, even though all its contents can be assumed by the Court to be true.

Mr Malcolm Turnbull, who represented Heimann Australia at the hearing, said: "This is nothing more than a cynical exercise in manipulation. Sir Robert apparently believes that even though MI5 officers do commit crimes, the public should be told the contrary and the courts support him in his deceitful work."

Notwithstanding the British Government's claims that MI5 defends the free world, this philosophy would be more at home in the committee rooms of an Eastern European Communist state. If the emperor has no clothes, the public have a right to know.

He added after the hearing: "Now they're saying, 'We admit he's got no clothes, but you're not entitled to say so.'"

The judge, Mr Justice Powell, a former member of the Australian security service, awarded the costs arising from the interrogatories against the British Government. At the previous day's hearing the judge had intervened to suggest "with great respect" that the major point in the British Government's case "seems to be so unreal". To suggest that Moscow Centre would be helped by knowing that MI5 and MI6 had relations with the

CIA and that there had been trouble with J. Edgar Hoover was utterly surreal. Earlier, the judge said that it was known that the British security services had leaked like a sieve for years.

The questions put to the British Government were specifically about allegations contained in Mr Wright's book. Once the court insisted that they be answered, the Government was in the position of knowing that Sir Robert Armstrong and Mr Wright would be questioned in detail and under oath about claims that MI5 took part in criminal acts.

By admitting, in the context of this action, that everything Mr Wright says is true, this embarrassing situation will be avoided.

## MP gives details of charges

By Alan Travis

ON July 21 a Labour MP claimed that the Prime Minister and the Government believed it was "right to break the law" and were involved in a "cover-up" over the activities of MI5.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Labour, Workington) outlined in the Commons some of the allegations that the Guardian and Observer have been restrained from publishing by a High Court injunction. He based his allegations on the memoirs of Mr Peter Wright, a former MI5 agent, which were broadcast in June on two Australian radio stations.

Under the protection of parliamentary privilege, Mr Campbell-Savours listed detailed allegations made by the former officer in the book whose publication the Government is seeking to ban.

These accuse MI5 officers of attempting to bug the West German and French embassies in London; placing microphones behind cyphering machines in the Greek and Indonesian embassies; bugging

diplomatic conferences at Lancaster House, including the Zimbabwe independence negotiations in 1978; entering Russian consulates abroad; plotting against Harold Wilson during his 1974-76 premiership and diverting resources to investigate leftwing groups in Britain instead of setting its own house in order.

Mr Campbell-Savours said that Mr Wright is also believed to have alleged details of a plot to assassinate President Nasser during the Suez crisis. He also alleges that MI5 was involved in testing poison on sheep; switching numberplates on vehicles in this country; bugging Nikita Khrushchev's suite at Claridge's Hotel during his 1950s visit and opening of diplomatic bags.

"That is law-breaking in Britain. We now see our Government engaged in a cover-up. The Prime Minister does not believe in policies of law and order. She believes it is right for the state to break the law," said Mr Campbell-Savours.

But it does throw doubt over the likely success of the attempt to stop publication.

Mr Theo Simos, for the British Government, had argued in Sydney: "The relevant public interest which we seek to protect is the Australian public interest, and it is that it must be ensured that MI5 is leakproof. The detriment flows from the result of showing that MI5 is not leakproof."

"Whether MI5 is leakproof or not is independent of the character of the leak. If friendly security services see MI5 as not leakproof they will refuse to exchange confidential information as they will know that MI5 cannot maintain its confidentiality."

The Government has also made strenuous efforts to prevent any mention of Mr Wright's allegations. It won an injunction against the daily Guardian and the Observer preventing either paper from stating the Wright allegations, even if they had been published before. Only after a Court challenge by the newspapers were they given permission to report proceedings in the open court in Australia.

The Court of Appeal has upheld the injunction, permitting only reporting of such Australian court proceedings, anything said in the Houses of Parliament, and quotation from one book about the security service which attributes some information to Mr Wright.

## The British prefer freedom to riches

BRITISH people are nothing like as interested in getting rich as the Japanese or the Americans, according to a survey carried out by Gallup Poll for London Weekend Television.

Only 9 per cent of Britons said that their main goal in life was to get rich, whereas 38 per cent gave this answer in Japan and 15 per cent in the US.

The great majority of respondents in the British survey said that their main aim in life was "to live as I like" (77 per cent). "To get rich" came in second place only just ahead of "to work on behalf of society" (8 per cent).

In terms of money the main concern of British people was just to have "enough money to be free of financial worries" (61 per cent) rather than to have "plenty of spare money in the bank" (16 per cent) or "a great deal of money" (only 2 per cent).

The people interviewed for the survey had a remarkably low opinion of those who were rich, finding them more likely to be educated and ambitious than other people, but also more rather than less likely to be ruthless (by 67 to 5

By Martin Linton

per cent), snobbish (62-4), greedy (56-3), and less rather than more likely to be generous (40-12), caring (38-6), honest (37-4), and slightly less likely to be hard-working (32-22).

The last charge was strenuously denied by the rich themselves who said that to become rich they had to work "a lot harder" (60 per cent) or a "bit harder" (8 per cent), though a majority of them conceded that they had not had to sacrifice family life (79 per cent), sacrifice time with friends (71 per cent) or even give up leisure activities (61 per cent).

The public at large considered the rich to be more rather than less likely than other people to try to avoid their taxes (80-6). But, curiously, they thought they would be less rather than more likely to succeed (42-14). If someone had started with almost nothing and become very rich, however, they were more likely to believe he had "something to hide" (49 per cent) than that he was "above board and honest" (35 per cent).

The main reasons why people became rich in Britain were considered to be inheritance (36 per cent), hard work (24), exceptional ability (17), or "by exploiting others" (9). The same question produced rather different answers in Japan, where they put inheritance at 51 per cent, ability at 20, and hard work at 12. In the US, they put hard work top at 43 per cent, inheritance at 20, and ability at 13.

The role of the rich was seen quite differently in the three countries. In the UK, 34 per cent thought the rich "live a life of leisure", and 34 per cent believed they "support the British heritage by maintaining stately homes and buying works of art." 39 per cent thought they "create jobs and prosperity" and 26 per cent thought they "exploit others". In the US, 39 per cent thought they helped the economy by creating jobs and only 18 per cent thought they exploited others. In Japan, 69 per cent thought the rich lived a life of leisure and only 12 per cent thought they helped the economy.

## Leading climbers perish on K2

By Martin Wainwright

SIX climbers, including two Britons, froze and starved to death on K2, the world's second-highest peak, after being trapped in a blizzard for more than a week, according to a survivor at the weekend.

Kurt Diemberger, an Austrian mountaineer and film maker, said in the town of Skardu, in Pakistan, that two Austrians, two Britons and two Poles died in early August on the 28,250ft mountain. Mr Diemberger and a fellow Austrian, Willi Bauer, were the only survivors from the eight mountaineers trapped in a makeshift camp near the summit of K2, he said. Both suffered frostbite.

The two Britons who died were Mrs Julie Tullis, aged 47, and Mr Alan Rouse, aged 35, a British Himalayan expert. Several of the climbers, of whom Mrs Tullis is known to be one, had already

succeeded in reaching the summit of K2.

The eight climbers belonged to Austrian, British and Polish expeditions, who were climbing or had scaled K2. Italiana and South Korean expeditions were also assaulting the peak in the far north of Pakistan, near the Chinese and Indian borders.

The eight were near each other and close to the summit when a huge blizzard hit on August 7. They took refuge in a camp to wait out the storm, said Mr Diemberger. However, when the storm lasted for more than a week the mountaineers ran out of food and became progressively sicker from the cold and altitude.

Five people died in the camp — Mrs Tullis and Mr Rouse; Austrians Hannes Wieser, aged 30, and Alfred Imtzer, aged 43; and Wojten Wroz, of Poland.

Mr Diemberger, Mr Bauer and a second Polish climber, Miss Dobrosława Miodowicz, managed to get out after about seven days and start down the mountain. Mr Diemberger said he last saw Miss Miodowicz at about 19,800 feet. Austrian diplomats said that another Austrian climber, Michael Messner, aged 25, was still listed as missing.

Mr Diemberger and Mr Bauer managed to reach a base camp at the bottom of K2, where they were looked after by South Korean mountaineers until a Pakistani military helicopter airlifted them to Skardu.

Mr Rouse of Nether Edge, Sheffield, had been on 15 Himalayan expeditions. His girlfriend, Ms Deborah Sweeney, is expecting their first child on August 26, the day he was due to return home. When told of Mr Rouse's death she

said: "I am proud to be having Alan's baby. It has given me strength at this time."

K2, which Mr Rouse tackled unsuccessfully three years ago, was to have been his last big climb. After returning from the Himalayas he planned to settle in Sheffield and operate an adventure travel company.

His party left for the Himalayas on May 1, arriving at base camp three weeks later. The party at first attempted one of K2's two unclimbed ridges, but were forced by bad weather to switch to one of the four ridges already climbed.

Mrs Tullis's husband, Terry, a climbing instructor from Tunbridge Wells, said that a telegram from the Foreign Office had confirmed his worst fears. "But I am so proud that she got to the summit. That is what she wanted and what she worked for," he said.

# ATTENTION BRITISH CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD

1	BROWN (Andrew Brown, of 6 Orchard Grove, Maida Vale, London W2)	DON'T BE X CLUDED!
2	SMITH (John Phillip Smith, of 21A Highfield Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN6 2DR)	
3	JONES (Albert David Jones, of 11 Charlton Court, London NW1)	

If you were registered as an elector in the UK within the last 5 years you can now vote in UK parliamentary and European Parliament elections.

Your vote will be cast in the constituency in which you were last registered before leaving the UK.

In order to qualify you will have to fill in a declaration form and return it by 10th October 1986 (15th September if you were previously resident in Northern Ireland).

Forms and an explanatory leaflet are available from your nearest diplomatic or consular post.

**PLEASE LET OTHER BRITISH CITIZENS KNOW THAT THEY MAY ALSO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE UK.**

## Political embarrassment at the heart of Whitehall fears

GOVERNMENT Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) cooperated with the US National Security Agency, its partner in signals intelligence, in illegal eavesdropping on the communication of civil rights and anti Vietnam war activists.

The project, code-named Minaret, involved the use of two listening posts, one at Monweth Hill, near Harrogate in Yorkshire — now under direct NSA control — and the other at Morwenstow, Cornwall, part of GCHQ's network. Under the scheme, US domestic communications intercepted by these stations were relayed to Fort Meade, the NSA headquarters in Maryland.

The idea, Mr Nigel West says in a book on GCHQ just published, was to avoid breaking the US Federal Communications Act by using stations based in Britain to pick up American domestic traffic. The project was later abandoned in the wake of the Watergate investigations and inquiries by Congress into illegal intelligence operations.

Minaret was an extension of an earlier operation, code-named Shamrock, whereby the NSA secretly obtained copies of overseas communications. Though this was also in breach of US law, American intelligence agencies assured the companies involved, such as ITT, RCA and Western Union, that there was no chance of prosecution.

The Minaret plan was authorised by the White House in 1967 — just as Parliament in Britain was getting excited about a revelation in the Daily Express by Mr Chapman Pincher that copies of overseas cable traffic were regularly handed over to British intelligence. The practice, Whitehall advised privately, was allowed under British law, specifically under section 4 of the 1920 Official Secrets Act.

Mr West's book is the second this year to reveal that GCHQ operates

landstation stations in Africa, including one at the British embassy in Pretoria and one at the High Commission in Lusaka. This takes on added significance in the light of a recent disclosure in the New York Times that the US, working closely with GCHQ, has provided the South African government with information about the operations and leadership of the African National Congress.

These incidents illustrate the close relationship between GCHQ and the NSA, strained only during the Suez crisis. But the description of the Minaret episode by Mr West (alias Rupert Allason, prospective Tory candidate for Torbay and son of a former Conservative MP) is particularly timely in the light of CND's complaint to the High Court about MI5 telephone taps, the Government's attempt to prevent the Guardian and the Observer from publishing allegations made by Mr Peter Wright, a former senior MI5 officer, of unlawful acts by the security service, and demands by MPs that the British intelligence services should be more accountable and subject to tighter controls.

It is timely also in the light of concern expressed privately in the case of Cathy Massiter, a former MI5 officer, publicly by a small but apparently increasing number of officials in the intelligence community about the lack of safeguards.

MI5 reportedly has the capacity to hold basic computer data on about 20 million people. Developments in electronics and computer technology have given GCHQ the ability to eavesdrop on communications indiscriminately. The only safeguard is the official's own conscience. It is up to him to decide whether to throw away tapes of private conversations between innocent citizens or groups rather than passing them on to MI5 or Whitehall.

Present and former officials say

that the present political atmosphere and the use of the intelligence services for political ends (the use, for example, of MI5 by the Ministry of Defence to get information on CND) make these voluntary safeguards worthless.

But crude political interference works both ways. It is now being said that the intelligence services are under pressure to provide the Government only with the information that it wants to hear. It is not a new phenomenon, however. GCHQ and MI6 were quick to inform the Wilson government about the way Rhodesia broke sanctions in the 1960s. The government said it did not want to know and told the agencies to concentrate their attention elsewhere.

When asked recently by the Commons Treasury and Civil Service committee whether Watergate would have emerged in Britain,

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, replied: "Yes, it would, and much, much quicker." Officials ask how, given Sir Robert's strict code covering the duties and loyalties of officials and the absence of any code of ethics covering their behaviour.

While the Government is trying to prevent the publication of Mr Wright's memoirs in Australia by suing him for breach of confidence, it has obtained a civil injunction temporarily preventing publication of a book by a former GCHQ employee. Mr Jack Kana, a former radio supervisor at GCHQ, says that his book is being suppressed in an attempt to cover-up security lapses rather than protect classified information. According to reports in the American press, other revelations relate only to what the spy, Geoffrey Prime, revealed to the Russians.

The Government, which is desperately worried that the Austr-

lian courts will take a more relaxed attitude towards the Wright memoirs than British judges, failed to prevent Mr Gordon Welchman, one of the brilliant mathematicians who worked during the war for the Government Code and Cypher School — the forerunner of GCHQ — from publishing in the US an account of how enemy codes were broken. Sir Peter Marychurch, the director of GCHQ, told Mr Welchman that his initiative could cause "direct damage to security", a charge dismissed as absurd in a letter to the Guardian by one of Welchman's wartime colleagues, Sir Stuart Milner-Barry.

The argument of both Sir Robert Armstrong and Sir Peter Marychurch is one of principle rather than substance. They say that if Welchman, Wright, and Kane get away with it, other former intelligence officers may be encouraged to follow suit (as has happened in the US).

The argument about substance is based on the alleged fear that potential enemies will gain valuable information. Yet as West and other authors have made clear, spies like Geoffrey Prime at GCHQ and a long list of others in the US have already passed on much more valuable information to the Russians, including details of sophisticated spy satellite systems, than any former employee of the intelligence services has published or threatens to publish.

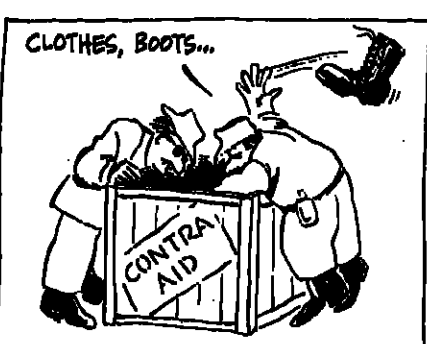
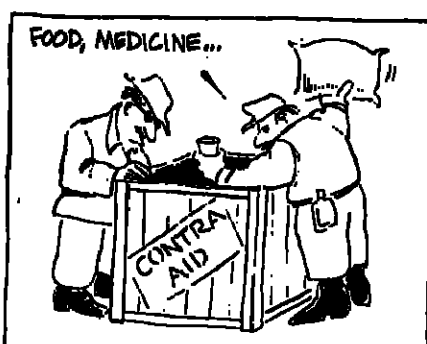
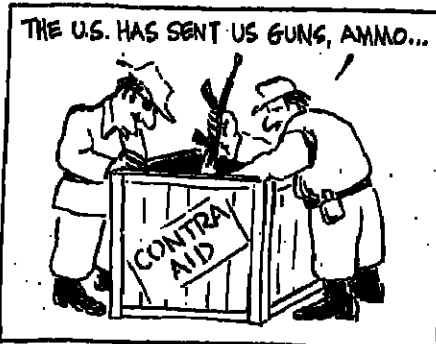
What does worry the Government is the threat of former intelligence agents publicly expressing concern about improper conduct or unlawful acts and corroborating politically embarrassing information disclosed by informed outsiders. Normally, the Government's policy is to maintain a discreet silence and avoid drawing attention to disclosures (a policy it may regret not having adopted in the Peter Wright case). For example, it quietly ignored a

GCHQ, *The Secret Wireless War, 1900-1936*, by Nigel West, Weidenfeld and Nicholson, £12.95. See *You In November*, by Peter Stiff, Galago Books, £16.95.









## Contras to get US arms next month

By Mark Tran in Washington

NICARAGUAN rebels can expect to start receiving US military supplies from mid-September, US officials and congressional sources said after Senate approval of President Reagan's \$100 million Contra aid request. The Senate voted 53-47 last week in favour of the package, which includes \$70 million in military aid.

Analysts here said that the Administration's priority will be training the Contras. The emphasis, said Mr David MacMichael, a disillusioned former CIA consul-

tant, will be on special units and the officer corps. Much of the training will be conducted openly in Honduras by US Army special forces mobile training teams and Vietnam veterans on contract to the US Army.

Mr MacMichael, like others, points out that allowing the CIA to get involved in the Contra war effort means that the Administration will be able to tap an additional \$400 million in CIA contingency funds over which Congress has no control.

Observers say that the lack of Contra access to any significant population inside Nicaragua will preclude any large-scale expansion of rebel numbers. New recruits will come primarily through conscription among refugees who fled the border fighting by seeking shelter in Costa Rica and Honduras.

Analysts predict a new Contra offensive six or nine months after the resumption of American military aid if only to demonstrate its credibility to Congress. It is widely

expected that the rebels will try to seize a town and install an alternative government with a view to American recognition.

During the entire debate on Contra aid in Congress, opponents of Administration policy argued that the military aid package for the Contras would eventually lead to American troops fighting in Nicaragua.

President Reagan hailed the Senate action as a vote for democracy in Nicaragua and urged the negotiators to reach agreement

quickly. President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua condemned the Senate vote as "scandalous" and a violation of international law.

Michael Simmons adds: British disapproval of the Senate vote was voiced in Whitehall last week. A Foreign Office statement said that while US policy was a matter for the US, the British view, shared with "our European partners," was based on the conviction that the problems of Central America "cannot be solved by military means."

## Congress backs Reagan's crusade against Nicaragua

THE US Senate has now voted to set in motion a train of events which could crown or ruin, and certainly dominate, the final Reagan years — not war in South Africa, the arms race or the ailing world economy, but the political settlement in the small Central American republic of Nicaragua which has become Ronald Reagan's personal obsession.

Last week the final filibuster was voted down and final congressional endorsement given to the \$100 million White House proposal openly to finance the military subversion of a government with which it retains full diplomatic relations and whose president,

Daniel Ortega, appears on US chat shows — in his suit not his fatigues.

In pursuit of its policy the Administration is prepared to defy the World Court, ignore domestic public opinion (which remains hostile), alienate its Nato and EEC friends who disapprove, and cajole Congress and the Central American republics alike into acquiescence. A damaging war and a Latin debt crisis are both on the cards. If the redoubtable Dr Concor Cruise O'Brien's contribution to the latest issue of the Atlantic Monthly is correct, so is a Latin breakaway from the Roman Catholic Church. For the Marxist

Sandinistas have managed to harness *el dios de los pobres* — the liberationist "church of the poor" — to Latin nationalism, and worsted the Pope in the process.

Yet President Reagan has chosen to make the defeat of the Sandinista regime a moral as well as a strategic imperative. He need not have done so. Only the excessively pious would deny that the United States has legitimate security interests in its own backyard, even though the President's maps and wallcharts, showing the range of Sandinista subversion and Soviet MIGs, strain credulity.

But we have heard less lately about Managua's subversion of El Salvador. Perhaps the charge has served its purpose now that the Salvadoreans have a respectable, if weak, civilian head in President Duarte and the Contras are established, if weak, military fact in their Honduran camps. Geopolitical considerations merge with a moral crusade to restore democratic pluralism, US-style, inside Nicaragua. Monroe's Doctrine blends with Reagan's and gives rise to the pleasing thought: does the President realise it is his predecessor of that name and not Marilyn, we are talking about?

This crusade is the product of an interesting bit of cross-breeding between gut anti-communism on the right (exemplified by Secretary of State Shultz) and that strain of crusading liberal zeal which renege Democrats like Jeane Kirkpatrick have brought with them from the party of Woodrow Wilson and Jack Kennedy. Ronald Reagan is arguably the first "neo-conservative" of the school, unless we count Winston Churchill.

In this particular drama, one key player, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, the ambitious Mr Elliot Abrams, was only born in 1948. His passage from Harvard and the LSE to the royal family of academic neo-conservatism (he is the son-in-law of Norman Podhoretz and Midge Decter) included apprenticeships on the staffs of Senators Henry "Scoop" Jackson and Pat Moynihan.

At age 38, Abrams is one of just two senior survivors after six years in the Reagan State Department (the other is Chet "constructive engagement" Crocker) and his apparent energy injects one of the few notes of moral complexity into the drama. Abrams is, who, in the interests of even-handed application of the crusading Reagan

doctrine, appears to be applying pressure not just on Nicaragua, but on the right-wing dictatorships of Paraguay and Chile. Not Contra pressure, of course, but enough to win him the abuse of Senator Jesse Helms — a development which will do the lad's career no harm at all.

It is Washington's public claim that its modest down payment of \$100 million of taxpayers' money will turn the tide; the motley collection of Contra leaders really will fulfil the promises of victory in a year or so; that the long-suffering people of Nicaragua will take heart and resist; and that the Marxist comandantes will split, crumble and flee to Havana or Mexico City; that Moscow will acquiesce.

In this last hope they may be right. The Soviet leadership has invested only modestly in the Nicaraguan adventure, its pragmatism more pronounced than Washington's. But it will not be that easy. No one here, except

By Michael White  
in Washington

possibly the President, believes that the gap between rhetoric and reality can be filled by \$100 million, especially when the funds must (on well-documented congressional evidence) run to Miami real estate, cocaine deals and kickbacks as well as soldiers' boots.

At this point the pessimists predict that the Administration is creating its own Vietnam and that the commitment of the US Marines to another 21 year tour is the logical consequence of the policy. Even that old warhorse, George McGovern, was forced to break his silence of his enforced retirement the other day to offer dire warning. Oddly enough the military, so wary since Saigon days, is positively gung-ho and says the whole show could be wrapped up in a month.

The Administration insists that its \$100 million package is the alternative to direct military involvement and there are enough cowardly congressmen who voted for it as the lesser evil. But evil it will be and, whatever happens, the White House will be back for more next year.

What is likely to happen is this. Congress has re-opened the door for the CIA to run the Contra war

from Miami and from the camps on the Nicaraguan borders. Weapons, including Stinger missiles to neutralise the Sandinistas' Soviet Hind helicopters, will flood in. US special forces, Green Berets, will be free at last to train the Contras. Intelligence support has been authorised and the presumption must be that the kind of "covert" skulduggery which Congress halted in 1984, assassination manuals, mining of ports, will be revived. For the evidence of the past two years shows that congressional oversight, the conscience clauses, will be right impossible to enforce. The CIA's own funds will be available — hundreds of millions of dollars.

Most likely the Contras will attempt to take and hold territory on which to declare a provisional government which the US can recognise while de-recognition Managua. That is what Ortega predicts and Senator Richard Lugar appears to expect. It was tried in the Jalapa Valley in 1983 and failed. In an unpublished paper, former CIA analyst, David MacMichael, now working for the liberal Council on Hemispheric Affairs here (COHA), predicts the Contras will this time try Puerto Cabezas or "less likely" Bluefields on the isolated Atlantic coast, far from Spanish population centres, among the separatist Miskito Indians.

In short, a Bay of Pigs Mark II in which US air and naval power would not be pulled back by the blast of conscience if it was needed to sustain a bridgehead. From there on nobody really knows what happens next, but the Nicaraguan "provocation" on the Honduras border last March saw US helicopters rush up local troops and could provide justification for direct intervention under the Rio Treaty.

Washington banks on greater economic and military pressure producing greater internal repression and has so far not been disappointed. Sophisticates here want to see the revolution stew in its own juice rather than recycle the legends of Sandino. This is a view which, coupled with Mr Reagan's notorious caution in all but words, lends itself to a dirty little low intensity war — keeping options open until something turns up or the President leaves office.

It will not go down well with American public opinion which likes its wars clean and over by tea time. Nor should it. But the clock is ticking against Mr Reagan.

## The economy that went from the Red to the black

AN ITALIAN colleague who knows the Soviet Union well recently described it as the most corrupt country in the world, with a black economy larger than that of Italy and a passion for bribes and gifts that bears comparison with the Middle East or West Africa.

He may be right. But with the Soviet Union undergoing a great national spasm of a campaign against corruption, with ministers and ambassadors and top officials being arrested and the papers filled with accounts of the trials, it is worth thinking seriously about what corruption really is and what it means.

In a paradoxical way, official corruption is based on the assumption of honesty. You assume that once an official is bought, he stays bought, and delivers the service for which he is bribed. To this extent at least, we are not really faced with a vast and institutionalised dishonesty, but a matter of payment for services rendered.

The other feature of corruption which blurs the morality of it all is the way that poor countries need corruption as an excuse to keep the state budget under control. There is less pressure to pay clerks and officials a decent wage if you can assume that they make up their salaries in bribes.

Corruption, in short, is the free market system run riot. In a centrally planned economy like the Soviet Union, or in an economy where goods are distributed

through a rationing system like Britain's in the 1940s, corruption is a way of restoring the classic capitalist system of rationing through price. Anything is available, to those with wealth or influence.

In the later years of Leonid Brezhnev, it is hardly an exaggeration to say that this kind of capitalism was re-entering Soviet

life through the back door. The black economy was broadly tolerated, as an essential lubricant of a creaking and inefficient system. Indeed, Brezhnev's own family and cronies were up to their necks in it.

His son, Yuri, who has just been given early retirement from his insecure as a deputy minister of foreign trade, used his money and his privileges to go hunting in Africa and night-clubbing in Paris, and on one famous occasion at the Crazy Horse began tipping the topless girls with \$100 bills.

Brezhnev's daughter Galina liked the high life and loved diamonds, which led to a complex scandal that involved the arrest of her lover, Boris the gypsy, a purge of the state circus for foreign currency manipulations, and the "suicide" of her protector, the deputy head of the KGB General Semyon Tsvigun.

The whole bizarre business, which took place shortly before Brezhnev's death, was to the Brezhnev period what the Profumo

scandal had been to the Macmillan years in Britain.

But the very size of the Soviet Union meant that the corruption was on an altogether grander scale than it ever reached in Britain, in spite of the regional scandals that hit the north-east of England with the Poulson affair and Wales with the Taffia saga. In Georgia, Azerbaijan and throughout the traditionally Muslim republics of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and the rest of them, local officials had the autonomy to run the place like so many satrapies.

In Azerbaijan, until the great purge which swept away the entire local praesidium, the minister of interior and all the senior party secretaries, the going rate for promotion to local police chief was 50,000 roubles, and the post of first secretary of a district party committee cost a staggering 200,000 roubles.

Taking charge of that purge won Geidar Aliev his current seat on the Politburo, just as the career of the current foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze took off when he ran the purge in Georgia. There are more vast clean-ups under way in Central Asia this year.

Half of the party leadership in Uzbekistan has been replaced and although Brezhnev's old crony Dinnukhamed Kunayev remains in charge of Kazakhstan, the second and third ranks of the party

administration beneath him have been swept away after scandals that involved people building private horse-racing courses and luxurious private homes.

But the question is now being publicly raised whether the police inquiries and the purges go far enough. There was a remarkable letter published in the Moscow press recently from a young man who has just been promoted manager of a food store.

"There exists the dangerous delusion that having arrested several hundred criminals, having publicised their crimes, we have managed to put an end to the illness. This is only partly true. Certainly the people who took and gave bribes, those who set up the vast network of theft and corruption have now been isolated. But has the system they created been destroyed at the roots?" he began.

He went on to describe his own experience. The trade department

which controls and supplies his shop had been investigated. "Practically all the leadership was imprisoned or dismissed," he claimed, "but as soon as I became shop director, there was a phone call saying I should not forget that tomorrow was the birthday of Polina Ivanovna from the accounts office. Such phone calls from various trading and controlling organisations keep on ringing as if nothing had happened."

"We depend on our suppliers, and they accept our orders, but if our orders are not supported by something impressive, by this or that kind of bribe, we can be left without products," he went on.

"It is not enough to uproot the sick tree. It is necessary to decontaminate the ground around it. I see the way out only in changes affecting the whole economic mechanism. I'm convinced we need radical changes — the sooner the better."

**FILL IN THE  
COUPON. THEN FILL  
IN CHEQUES FROM  
A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT  
THAT PAYS OVER**

**9.3%  
INTEREST.**

If you have sterling funds to invest, find out about the Sterling Money Account managed by offshore bankers, Tyndall & Co (Isle of Man) Ltd.

You earn high interest (the result of Tyndall Group's muscle in the money market) and enjoy the convenience of a cheque book for all normal banking services, including instant access to your funds, and payment of large bills (minimum cheque £250). The account can also be used for standing orders.

Investment is in UK banks, local authorities and building societies. Interest is credited four times a year, with the interest itself earning interest to give you an even higher return (currently 9.71%). Post the coupon for details.

\*Rate at time of going to press

To: Tyndall & Co. (Isle of Man) Ltd, Dept  
PO Box 62, Tyndall House, Kensington Rd, Douglas,  
Isle of Man, U.K. Tel: (0624) 29201. Telex: 628732.  
Please send me details of Tyndall Money  
Accounts. Sterling ☐ US Dollar ☐  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tyndall & Co. (Isle of Man) Ltd

### CLASSIFIED

#### BOOKS

ANY NEW BOOK sent anywhere. Write: Whitman's Bookshop, 7 Orange Grove, Bath, UK. Visa/Mastercard accepted.

#### HOTELS

LONDON — Heritage Hotel, 47/8 Leicester Gardens, W2. Moderate terms. Private toilet, shower. Tel 01-402 9062.

#### EDUCATION

**CITY & GUILDS OF LONDON ART SCHOOL.**  
Principal: Roger de Grey, P.R.A.  
Full-time: 1yr foundation course, 3yr diploma courses in Painting, Illustrative Arts, Sculpture, Sculpture Carving in Stone & Wood, and Restoration of Wood, Stone & Polychrome Finishes. Decorative Arts. BTEC diploma courses in Restoration, Carving & Polychrome: 2-year general and 2-year higher. 2-year diploma courses in Lettering, and Woodcarving & Gilding. Fees £2,300 per annum.  
SAB to: The Secretary, 134 Kensington Park Road, London W81, England.

#### GIFTS

**Present Surprise**  
A personalised bottle of champagne or cognac: a gift for someone special.  
Write to: 14 Bryan House, 14 Bryan House, 14 Bryan House, London WC1N 3HL.

### ACCOMMODATION

**202 LUXURY SERVICE APARTMENTS FROM £39 per day per apartment LONDON**  
Self-contained, fully serviced apartments in Kensington — close to park, shops, buses and subway. Colour TV, telephone, equipped kitchen, central heating. Modern luxury at reasonable prices. City park. Brochure by return mail. Quote "G".  
**CHALFONT INVESTMENTS LTD,**  
202 KENSINGTON, CHURCH STREET, LONDON W8, ENGLAND.  
Tel: 01-229 5371 (weekdays)  
727 7032/239 9055  
Telex: 21762 (m2354).

LONDON, Wimbledon — 6c flats for 2-6, 5 mins. sta., CH, TV, 2 weeks min. From £90 pw. Brochure: 17 St Mary's Road, London, SW19. Tel: 01-847 0573.

**FAIRLAWN APARTMENTS Kensington W11**  
A temporary London home for visitors or families on the move. Short or long term in comfortable fully equipped service flats, sleeping 2-7 from £50 per flat per day. Fully equipped kitchen, fridge, china, linen, central heating, hot water, colour television, included with maid service and private telephone. Push chairs, high chairs and cots or cribs available on request without charge. Baby-sitting and easy car parking. Easy access to West End and Portobello Road.  
Brochure: 109 Elgin Crescent, Kensington, London W11. Tel: 01-229 6006



## COMMENT

## End of the line with Mr Botha

THE AMERICAN Senate's overwhelming endorsement of sanctions implies that the US will within a month apply tougher measures against apartheid than anything so far envisaged by the Commonwealth or the European Community. The six-to-one vote for a series of trade embargoes suggests that there should be no difficulty in finding the two-to-one margin needed to overrule a veto by President Reagan. The House of Representatives voted earlier by a large margin to put a total ban on trade with South Africa, but the compromise now to be worked out is likely to be closer to the Senate bill than the House's. Rather than be overruled, Mr Reagan may decide on a beefed-up version of last year's executive order, issued to pre-empt tougher congressional moves (which were much milder than the last Senate package). Either way, Washington seems set to adopt a stance on sanctions which will throw Mrs Thatcher's resistance to them into even sharper relief. At the Commonwealth summit she offered to swallow the moderate Community measures due for endorsement next month.

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany, the other chief laggard on sanctions, is unlikely to hold out alone, so by the end of September the Americans, the Commonwealth, and the Europeans may succeed in dragging Britain into more sanctions. Events in South Africa as the Senate debated showed that President Botha has conceded as much reform as he is going to. At the end of his party's federal congress he made it clear he would never abolish residential or educational segregation. He has said time and again that he will not accept one person, one vote in a unitary state; on the contrary, his new proposals last week would extend the balkanisation of South Africa beyond the "homelands" to the black townships as "autonomous city-states." Even the brief ray of hope amid the gloom that the courts might release thousands of detainees had faded by the weekend, before the Government initiated action to close the loopholes found by lawyers.

The general defiance emanating from Durban undermined in advance the value of

the Government proposal to let the African majority elect its own representatives to negotiate on a new constitution. We have long advocated the creation of such a mechanism, and we would have welcomed it as little as a year ago. But Pretoria's hardened position against negotiating with the African National Congress suggests that ANC leaders like Nelson Mandela would not be allowed to stand; and even if they were, the racial policies on which the Government has excluded discussion would foredoom talks with such people to failure in any case.

As Mr Botha leads the whites into the laager for what is likely to be a prolonged last stand, his strategy has at least been clarified starkly enough to discredit those of his foreign sympathisers who still believe he can be persuaded to go further on reform. He believes (quite correctly, it has to be said) that he can never get ahead of the demand for change no matter how far he might go, unless he concedes the principle of majority rule, which is anathema. He has the example of the highly effective sports

boycott, which began by demanding integration of teams; when this was widely conceded, the ante was raised to desegregation of the whole of South African society — just for playing games with the Springboks. By imposing a state of emergency to quell revolt and sending foreign mediators home with a flea in their ear, Mr Botha has signalled his refusal to be drawn by this method into the ultimate concession, surrender of white domination. We now know exactly what he meant when he ad-libbed menacingly in his disastrous "Rubicon" speech of just a year ago, "don't push us too far." Apartheid will not be dismantled so long as Mr Botha is alive. But sanctions are not only a signal to those with closed minds; they are also intended for the African majority whose goodwill it is the West's ultimate interest to win and retain.

Reports, pages 7, 15, 16

## Bhutto arrest

Continued from page 1

principal buttress for the Zia regime, which has profited handsomely from Pakistan's strategic proximity to Afghanistan. The Americans were instrumental in getting the General to lift martial law eight months ago, which enabled them to claim that at least one of the nasty dictators among their allies and clients was open to persuasion on human rights.

The wheel has almost turned full circle. Many of those now under the MRD umbrella were in the mass movement which ousted Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the PPP in 1977, opening the way to the harshness of the military regimes Pakistan has had between its brief bouts of democracy. Ever since General Zia, who believes Islam and democracy are irreconcilable and Islam must come first, took over he had promised a restoration of civilian rule. The delivery date has receded further and further into the future, and last week's police action can only be seen as another attempt to put off what he clearly regards as the day of reckoning. The longer he represses the demands for secular democracy and regional autonomy, the bigger the explosion will be when it comes. The General is politically bankrupt and if his American creditors are to salvage their position in Pakistan they should stop investing in his regime.

## A crop of problems for Mr Gandhi

THE Sikh terrorists, said Mr Rajiv Gandhi in Delhi last week, "are on the run." Wearing a bullet-proof jacket and screened by armoured glass and 5,000 police, with helicopters hovering overhead and army sharpshooters on the rooftops, the Indian Prime Minister promised an unusually thin crowd that terrorism would be eliminated within a few months. Those who may have thought that the assassination of General Arun Vaidya, the invader of the Sikh Golden Temple, suggested otherwise were told that this was the desperate act of a terrorist movement on the verge of extinction. Meanwhile in the troubled Punjab, some 200 people were arrested in a generally successful effort to prevent national-day protests against the central government. The chief target was the breakaway Badal faction of the Punjab's ruling Akali Dal party, the main body of which still favours cooperation with Mr Gandhi.

Mr Gandhi publicly committed himself to ending terrorism forever and also to "killing the snake" of Indian religious fanaticism. The present condition of the country makes

these intertwined tasks a tall order. Together they threaten to become the bane of Mr Gandhi's premiership, despite the promise of his remarkably lengthy honeymoon period, during which he seemed to carry all before him in soothing intercommunal tensions. Now there is strife between Hindus and Sikhs inside and outside the Punjab, between Hindus and Muslims in Gujarat, between Bengalis and Gurkhas in the far north. The Prime Minister condemned regionalism and communalism as enemies of progress last week, but barely two weeks before he conferred de facto statehood on Mizoram, the Indian outpost between Burma and Bangladesh, to put an end to 20 years of separatist guerrilla warfare there. Last year Mr Gandhi made a number of concessions to Akali Dal on regional autonomy. The moderate Sikh movement went on to defeat his own Congress (I) party in a state election to the chief minister's office, weakening the Prime Minister. But Hindu and Congress (I) disavowed his conciliatory moves, and Mr Gandhi's failure to keep them in line did much to revive Sikh fundamentalism.

Even allowing for the immense complexity of governing an ethnically and religiously diverse democracy of 750 million people, there are signs of irresolution and self-contradiction in all this. No wonder many Indians think Mr Gandhi cannot make up his mind; it is a small step from that to the harder suspicion that he is being Machiavellian and not just indecisive. The recent split in Akali Dal and the resurgence of Sikh terrorism reflect such suspicions. The genie of Sikh fundamentalism, let out by his mother (who paid for it with her life) to undermine the Akali Dal's moderate regionalism, will not be forced back into the bottle by treating Sikh anger as a law-and-order problem. Mr Gandhi has been accused by Indian commentators of pandering to Hindu sentiment in his handling of the Punjab problem, which his initial conciliatory approach came too late to set right. Of course he must face down the terrorists; but the lesson of his own brief term of office is that the removal of the grievances which a tiny, murderous minority takes to extremes is the only route to social peace.

As K2 in the Himalayas claims the lives of two leading British climbers, David Rose examines the fatal attraction of the sport.

## Reaching the tragic heights of obsession

ON the Savoia glacier at the bottom of K2, a three-week trek from anything that resembles civilisation, there is a small cairn bearing a cross and a series of aluminium plaques with the names of those who have died on the mountain's slopes.

The British climbers Alan Rouse and Julie Tullie, who perished from cold, exhaustion and hunger with four others sometime last week, must now be added to a bleak roll-call. K2, the world's second highest peak, deserves its epithet "the savage mountain" only too well: it has now claimed 20 lives.

Since 1978, when Nick Estcourt disappeared under tons of falling snow on another expedition to K2, the tiny elite of British Himalayan climbers prepared to attempt the 14 mountains more than 8,000 metres high has lost many of its brightest and best.

In 1982, Joe Tasker and Peter Boardman — arguably the two most gifted writers of mountain literature — disappeared high on the still-undiscovered Everest northeast ridge. Two years later, Alex MacIntyre, a Scot with a string of high-altitude successes to his name at the age of 28, was killed by a falling stone on the south face of Annapurna. Last year Roger Baxter-Jones, another mountaineer of vast competence and experience, was killed in the Alps.

The poignancy of the deaths of Rouse — on his last expedition, two weeks before the birth of his first child — and Tullie, who did



Alan Rouse



Mrs Julie Tullie

not begin Himalayan climbing until her forties but went higher than any British woman, is almost unbearable.

But as the news of their disappearance began to break among the climbing community at the weekend, the enthusiasm of those who remain seemed undimmed. Sandy Allen, a veteran of Everest, Lhotse and other Himalayan ventures, said: "I never encourage anyone to take up climbing. If they really want to do it, fine, I'll give them every support. But otherwise, no. It takes over your life."

Since Mallory's celebrated, if enigmatic, comment that he wanted to climb Everest "because it's there" both climbers and non-climbers have attempted to ex-

plain the fatal attraction, mostly without success. But the all-consuming nature of the obsession is not in doubt.

Most of the highest peaks have been scaled, usually many times; the emphasis now is on new, hard routes, done in "Alpine style" — without porters, oxygen, chains of fixed rope and well-stocked camps, in a single push.

To achieve the fitness and acclimatisation necessary for such ascents, it is no longer possible, as in the days of Mallory, to do much but climb.

The theory behind Alpine-style ascents is that they minimise danger: by spending less time on slopes prone to avalanche, and

storing the chances of individual climbers falling victim to these "objective" risks over which they can have no control are reduced.

The theory has statistical backing: according to a survey in the latest issue of Mountain magazine, 60 per cent of the 280 deaths on 8,000 metre peaks up to the end of February 1986 were caused by objective events. To those bereaved by the deaths of Alan Rouse and Julie Tullie, it is small comfort: but the same survey also found the odds of dying are rather better than was once thought. The fatality rate among those setting off for 8,000 metre peaks is not the often-quoted figure of one in ten but 3.4 per cent, although as the survey noted, "for those who return again and again the risk is obviously higher".

In recent years, parties climbing in Alpine style have succeeded on routes in the Himalayas which would once have seemed inconceivable. Perhaps the most remarkable was the ascent last year of the west face of Gasherbrum 4, a 26,000 foot peak a few miles from K2. The two-week climb by a single pair involved unprotected technically difficult rock, followed by a descent of an unclimbed ridge, besides such an achievement, Reinhold Messner's solo, oxygenless ascent of Everest in 1980 begins to seem almost easy.

New routes have been climbed Alpine-style by British parties on Shishapangma, and Kangchenjunga. Alpine-style, according to

Messner, means climbing by "fair means": for those who succeeded, the personal reward and satisfaction appears to be much greater.

But the margin for coping with the unforeseen must be pared almost to nothing. Speed is essential, and speed means reducing weight. When a storm breaks, as it did on K2, the climber has only the contents of a rucksack and the will to live.

Expressing another aspect of the climbing obsession represented by Messner and Sandy Allen in their different ways, Rob Collier, a mountain guide and instructor and a close friend of Boardman, Tasker and Rouse, said that as he had become more capable as a mountaineer, he had found it necessary to do harder and harder routes to derive the same "peak experience" and heady euphoria, to climb in smaller teams in increasingly dangerous and remote locations.

Then there came a point where he, like many climbers, stood back: he began to wonder if striving to attain such an experience was any longer worthwhile.

Perhaps the apparently fatalistic remarks of Terry Tullie and Rouse's lover Deborah Sweeney reported after Alan's and Julie's deaths, that they had achieved the peak of their ambition, begin to seem explicable. They, more than anyone, knew the strength of the obsession, and the bliss before a cold and airless death the fact of having reached the summit made a difference.

## Le Monde

ENGLISH SECTION

## Reagan abandons the moral high ground



MANAGUA'S LEADERS obviously did not take long to react sharply to the US Senate vote on Wednesday, August 13, approving the package of \$100 million in military and humanitarian aid to the Nicaraguan "contras" that President Reagan had been insisting on for the past six months.

While this is undoubtedly a major victory for Reagan, it is also an ambiguous one. After an intense personal campaign, the US President succeeded in changing the minds of a majority within the Congress which until then had opposed a US commitment to men whom Reagan emphatically describes as "freedom fighters". But the dividing line is still narrow between the champions of stepped-up and publicly-acknowledged military aid and those who fear the escalation will turn into a Vietnam-style conflict in Central America.

Public opinion in North America is moreover largely quite opposed to any possible direct or indirect armed US involvement in Nicaragua. The United States has normal diplomatic relations with Managua, yet it is bankrolling an armed movement dedicated to

overthrowing the Sandinista government. A situation that is a particularly shocking paradox and anomalous, to put it no more strongly.

The US Senate vote was castigated as "scandalous" by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega speaking at a news conference in Managua the next day. He described the renewed aid given by the United States to the "contras" as an "infringement of international law" and a "threat to world peace". He also pointed out that

## COMMENT

World Court in The Hague had condemned the United States for direct and indirect intervention in Nicaragua over the past two years.

This is a moral condemnation which scarcely seems to bother Reagan, since he has decided that the United States will in all probability not recognise any future World Court decisions concerning Central American conflicts. So far, however, the Sandinista leaders appear to have failed to make the most of this

major advantage in their relations with world opinion. This is partly because the fund of goodwill they had to begin with has since significantly diminished. Even some of their sympathisers in the Socialist International are now voicing their doubts about the way in which they claim to be applying the three principles of their revolution — political pluralism, a mixed economy and nonalignment.

Every new American threat, every new "contra" onslaught has so far been met with another turn of the screw in Managua, thereby playing into the hands of the Sandinistas' enemies who condemn totalitarianism. There is no sign that the helping hand Washington has given the "contras" is going to persuade Managua to take a new moderate line.

The Senate vote moreover does not modify the balance of power on the ground in the short term. For months the "contras" have not shown that they are particularly combative. But the Sandinistas are going to have to intensify a war effort which is helping to strangle Nicaragua's drifting economy. (August 16)

## Peru walking the debt tightrope

IT COMES as no surprise that the International Monetary Fund has decided to rule Peru ineligible for new credits. For six months now, the IMF has been taking a fairly flexible attitude by putting off a decision to exclude Lima from international loans for having paid back only a very small portion of its outstanding debts. The leniency appeared to work, for in May Peru decided it would pay back \$180 million of its arrears by August 15. The debtor-country's subsequent failure to meet the deadline has now only \$35 million having been repaid — and the violent attacks against the IMF that accompanied the defaulting made the decision inevitable.

So now we have Peru joining the small band of bad debtors which include Vietnam, Sudan, Liberia and Guyana. But this should not affect Peru directly. For two years now it has received no new credits from the IMF, to which it owes a total of \$750 million. But the indirect repercussions of being excluded by the IMF could prove to be far more dangerous. Creditor governments, banks and even other international lending institutions will necessarily have to heed the IMF ruling when consid-

ering future applications for credits by Peru. Lima had kept up with its repayments to the World Bank, from which it has borrowed \$123 million, but the World Bank headquarters acknowledges that everything affecting Peru's situation will have to be taken into account in granting any further loans.

International financial circles are, moreover, beginning to express their reservations about a country owing them over \$14 billion during bad times when Peru's export earnings from oil, copper and silver are steadily

declining while imports of foodstuffs are rising as a result of price controls which have produced some shortages. And Peru's attempts to circumvent the IMF by making arrangements with lender countries to reschedule its debts or pay them off in kind has scarcely met with a favourable reaction except from Eastern-bloc states.

Since assuming power in July 1985, 85-year-old Peruvian President Alan Garcia has elevated the question of non-repayment into a principle and has become the champion of the rebellion against

the austerity policies imposed by IMF officials. Because creditors are "guilty of having injected considerable sums of money willy-nilly regardless of the uses to which it was put", and accordingly bear responsibility, he plans to keep Peru's debt repayments down to 10 per cent of its export earnings.

But while much of his criticism of the IMF is justified, the Peruvian President has not succeeded either in persuading other Latin American countries like Mexico, Brazil and Argentina to follow his lead, or in forging a cartel of the region's debtor nations.

This is because international financial circles, including the debtor nations themselves, know that nothing would be worse than making unilateral declarations about non-repayment of debts. The resulting general mistrust in world finance would cause a seizure in the financial circles would cause a seizure in the world's economic machinery. What the indebted nations need for correcting their economic situation is not credit curbs, but higher growth, new credits and more satisfactory market rates for raw materials.

## COMMENT

## Pakistan set for violent phase

Violent clashes marked Pakistan's independence day on August 14 with the government cracking down hard on opponents. At least six people were reported killed, and the Opposition leader, Benazir Bhutto, 38, was arrested for ignoring an order to stay at home and not take part in public gatherings. Opposition groups were reported to be planning a day of national protest against General Zia ul-Haq's government.

FOUR MONTHS after the triumphant homecoming of Benazir Bhutto, the leading opponent of General Zia ul-Haq's regime, a power struggle is shaping up in Pakistan. Indeed, for the first time since lifting martial law the authorities not only banned opposition meetings set for August 14, which is the country's independence day, but also proceeded to make preventive arrests of hundreds of opponents, and put under house arrest the daughter of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed in 1979.

The Opposition reacted by announcing the meetings would be held anyway and threatened to call a large-scale "national protest movement" in the next few days if those arrested were not released. As for Benazir Bhutto, who has been calling for early elections, she was banned from entering the province of Punjab for five days and consequently was unable to preside at the big meeting which was due to be held in the province's capital, Lahore.

These events are hardly a big surprise. President Zia ended nine years of martial law early this year and restored many civil rights, but he retains a firm grip on power. Because it boycotted the

1985 parliamentary elections, the Opposition is now practically unrepresented there. So when she returned from exile in April, Bhutto launched a campaign urging dissolution of the present Chamber. For weeks her meetings, which were permitted by the government, continued to draw substantial crowds in main cities.

After the Ramadan pause, it was doubtless time for Bhutto, who enjoys an undeniable popularity, to renew her appeals to the "people in the street" so as to put pressure on Zia, who for his part has the backing of the army and conservative elements in Pakistani society.

## COMMENT

But this time, under the excuse of maintaining law and order, the regime decided to put at least a temporary check on opposition activities.

The measures are a serious threat to the "democratisation" of Pakistan, with which Zia — currently on a pilgrimage to Mecca — has frequently expressed satisfaction. But the question is whether the protest movement led by Bhutto has not rather run out of steam in recent months. At any rate, the Pakistani government is counting on the extra-parliamentary opposition weakening and a part of public opinion becoming tired of the "agitation" orchestrated by Bhutto. Whatever happens, the power struggle between the veteran soldier and his young opponent is entering a phase which looks like being more violent than the previous one. (August 16)

## Socialists under threat in Hamburg

By Claire Tréan

EVER SINCE the June protests against the building of nuclear plants at Brokdorf and Wackersdorf touched off violent confrontations, that part of West German public opinion which regularly clamours for more police protection and tighter law enforcement has become more vociferous. The controversy over public safety has become particularly sharp in Hamburg where, with three months to go before the regional elections, it has set off one of the worst crises the administration of this Land has ever known.

Hamburg Police Chief Albert Honka handed in his resignation on Monday, August 11. The week before, the interior and justice ministers of the Land government resigned. Things were precipitated by a bloody and spectacular incident which took place on July 29 at the Hamburg courthouse.

On that day, Werner Pinzer, a hardened killer from the St Pauli underworld who was in court on five counts of murder, pulled out a gun and killed his wife and the state prosecutor, before turning the weapon on himself. The gun had apparently been slipped to him by his wife during an earlier visit to the prison where he was being held.

Hamburg was in uproar. How was such a notorious criminal being let out? Why was he being let out? Why was he being let out?

Land government leader Klaus von Dohnanyi cannot, however, abandon his public safety policy without risking to appear to go back on his word and offending a large part of his constituency. "Hamburg," he told the weekly magazine Der Spiegel, "is pursuing a policy of law and order."

Land government leader Klaus von Dohnanyi cannot, however, abandon his public safety policy without risking to appear to go back on his word and offending a large part of his constituency. "Hamburg," he told the weekly magazine Der Spiegel, "is pursuing a policy of law and order."

Continued on page 12



## Who is making political capital out of the Nucci affair?

By Corine Lesnes

EARLY JULY. The power-sharing arrangement (between a Socialist President and a rightwing Prime Minister) was working fairly smoothly with the President voicing occasional reservations about some of the ruling Majority's draft bills. The President's popularity rating was at its highest. In New York, he had a meeting with Ronald Reagan; in Moscow, with Mikhail Gorbachev.

On an altogether different plane, the Carrefour du Développement case was pure pulp fiction. People chuckled over the property deals of a (former) head of a private ministerial cabinet, a clairvoyant and a sub-prefect and the amorous extravagances of a former graduate of Saint Cyr military academy. Wheeling and dealing against a background of Third World development.

Back to Moscow. On July 9, the President lunched with a group of journalists. As was his custom, he made a few disclosures. One of them being that he would not sign the governmental decree on the privatisation of nationalised industries which was due to be adopted the following week at the cabinet meeting.

The following day, Le Monde quite unofficially uncovered a handwritten memorandum sent by Yves Chaler, former head of Christian Nucci's ministerial office. The memorandum had been written at least two months earlier and its existence was known little more than a fortnight before. In its 13 handwritten pages, Chaler — who undoubtedly saw which side of his bread was buttered — accused his former boss: Christian Nucci, primarily; but also Guy Penne, who is President Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs.

July 14. Mitterrand refused to sign the decree. That was when the Carrefour du Développement case took a sudden and more dramatic turn. Forgotten were the Château d'Orléans and the Bujumbura Franco-African summit. The sporadic incoherence led to Nucci's *communiqué*. Beaupaire, his election posters and his fake invoices, with a little diversion on the side to the Elysée by way of the Socialist Party and Paraguay.

On July 16, the satirical weekly *Canard Enchaîné* revealed that the President's office had to pick up the bill for an armoured Renault R-25 car which had already been paid for in 1985 by Carrefour du Développement. A week later, the same weekly showed how Henri Emmanuelli, who was Secretary of State for the Budget at the time, had been tipped off on Chaler's juggling acts. Meanwhile, the police swooped on Beaupaire, and also searched the Paris offices of OFRES, a publishing firm working for Socialist municipalities. Jean-Pierre Michau, the investigating judge, came back from his holiday specifically to charge Nucci's printer, Chaler, who had contacted a *Figaro* Magazine reporter, sharpened his attacks and revealed in almost mocking tones that he had met Mitterrand and discussed the affair with him. The pieces were moving up on the chessboard.

More coincidences, of course. Officially, the way the case was building up had nothing to do with the political situation. Justice, everybody kept saying, was taking its course, and if the investigation had suddenly veered towards the most political (which, moreover, cannot be denied) aspects of this

scandal with its numerous episodes it was quite simply a matter of chance. Nor should anyone see anything more than mere coincidence either in the fact that the first hiccup in the power-sharing arrangement coincided with the start of Nucci's troubles.

But chance, as popular wisdom has it, often has many ramifications. With all due respect to certain people, the "coincidence" requires the events to be interpreted in two ways. Each new situation has its own scandal. For example, has there ever been anything so fantastic which set off so little controversy? However much Nucci may gravely complain about the "political exploitation" of the case, he would be hard put to give the tiniest example of it. The scandal over alleged misuse of ONASEC

Former Minister of Cooperation Christian Nucci, the central figure in allegations about public funds being misused for private purposes, has announced he would himself ask for his parliamentary immunity to be lifted if that proved to be an obstacle to the current judicial investigation. Nucci is a member of the Assembly for an *aire* constituency and mayor of Beaupaire.

(Office National l'Éducation Sociale: at Culturelle des Rétroactes) funds, which is trifling compared with the Carrefour case, has been joyfully seized on by the present Secretary of State for Repatriates André Santini, and his predecessor in the post, Raymond Courrière. But you would look in vain for the tiniest cynical public remark on the Nucci affair by any minister currently holding office.

Should this be seen as one of power-sharing's bonuses? People who have no such illusions will see it rather as consummate skill on the part of the Majority in handling the case. It is clearly playing its cards carefully. It is letting the facts, the actors and especially the bank accounts speak for themselves. And the message is coming across: the Socialists have no monopoly of morality. So, not one word too many. One thing the ruling coalition does not want is to be held responsible for any breakdown of the power-sharing arrangement.

In private, there are fewer inhibitions. Boasting? Some think that in the Carrefour case they have leverage on the President. July 14 proved they were mistaken (Mitterrand chose his customary televised chat to the nation on National Day to announce he had no intention of signing certain decrees). But how far can the case go? That is the nub of the question. Does it contain enough to gradually erode coexistence? Very few today would be able to answer this question mark hanging over the Socialists.

It is said the case is expected to drag on. Dutifully respectful of power-sharing, Minister of Cooperation Michel Aurillac regularly reports to President Mitterrand on what is happening. Obviously the only member of Chirac's government who has been authorised to make statements on the case, this former prefect has so far steered a faultless course, raising the pressure when interest dies down, stopping back when necessary and above all keeping the matter strictly within a national framework. As Minister of Cooperation, Aurillac is determined to separate the Carrefour case from France's African policy. Though he describes himself as a

simple "spectator" in the case, he nevertheless makes regular statements: he says he is "shocked" by Yves Chaler's statements, speaks of "banditry", boosts the total sum unaccounted for to F20 million, raises questions about Penne's role in organising the Bujumbura summit, or considers aloud that Nucci's former cabinet chief has "taken care not to spill everything". If the Majority was looking for someone to punish "bandits", it has found him in Aurillac. "In 20 years' service I've never come across such extravagance," he says.

So, politeness on the surface. There are others to do the less glorious chores. Anonymous telephone calls are on the increase; people tip the press off on features of the scandal they feel are unlikely to be brought to the attention of the police. People opposed to power-sharing perhaps? At any rate, these tip-offs are not surely coming from Nucci, or Hubert Haddad, the founder of OFRES.

Quite apart from this wretched atmosphere, the real questions remain unanswered. The first of course concerns what happened to the F8.5 million which was taken out in hard cash. It should not be too difficult to find out whether the security men — public employees or mercenaries — sent out to Bujumbura were actually paid cash bonuses as Yves Chaler claims. The second has not the spotlight been trained on Nucci's escapades so as to draw attention away from far more serious matters in which, contrary to Aurillac's wishes, France's African policy is well and truly involved?

And then again, to switch to another area, we cannot help wondering why Chaler's memorandum, which in all probability was written early in May, reached Aurillac only on June 13 as his office claims. What happened during the first fortnight of May before the charges of falsifying documents were filed? And again, why did the judge wait two months to issue a warrant for Chaler's arrest? This last coincidence is doubtless not the least troubling rumour concerning the former military officer's (lieutenant-colonel) flight "to a country with which France has no extradition treaty" began spreading just about the time he had left London.

(August 12)

## Socialists under threat in Hamburg

Continued from page 11  
ing a complicated public safety policy. We're trying to be as liberal as possible, while being very firm with lawbreaking. For this we need the full trust of the people, who otherwise could accuse us of complacency. We have lost this trust in recent weeks. As I want to stick to this policy — liberalism and firmness — I have no choice but to sack people."

But the crisis has not been solved for all that, for another charge has been made against the police since June 8 when an anti-nuclear demonstration in Hamburg turned nasty. Several hundred demonstrators from Hamburg and Berlin who were prevented from joining the main rally at Brodbeck following various incidents with the police gathered at a large field in Hamburg where they held a spontaneous rally — one

The 13 members of the South Pacific Forum decided unanimously on August 8 at Suva, Fiji, to demand that the question of New Caledonia be put on the agenda of the United Nations Decolonisation Commission. They considered it was urgent to settle the matter. The only reservations were expressed by Sir Thomas Davis, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, who had met Prime Minister Jacques Chirac in Paris last month. Sir Thomas suggested it might have been better to wait until the referendum that the French government has proposed to hold in New Caledonia before next summer. Nevertheless, he voted with the other 12 on the question. The ruling on the request to put the New Caledonia issue on the agenda will be made by the "Committee of 24", presided over by Cuba's permanent representative at the United Nations, Oscar Oramas-Oliva. The expectation is that if nothing happens to hold up the procedure, the case of New Caledonia could be put down on the UN commission's agenda by November.

This is the eighth time that New Caledonians seeking independence have asked for their case to be taken up by the UN. Jean-Marie Tjibaou, who headed the FLNKS (Front de Libération Nationale Kanak et Socialiste) delegation to the Suva meeting (it was admitted on an observer basis), pronounced the Forum's initiative "very positive". The decision, he said, gave them "a new position in the Pacific".

Senator Dick Ukelov of the RPCR (Rassemblement Pour la Calédonie dans la République) said "New Caledonia's political problem is one for the New Caledonians and the New Caledonians alone... (it) should not be internationalised through a vote in the Forum." And he added: "Nothing will shake the New Caledonians' firm determination to remain French and decide their own future."

Prime Minister David Lange of New Zealand announced at the Forum that Great Britain and the United States would probably sign the protocols of the treaty declaring a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific. If this happened, France would be further isolated.

## France loses its way in the Pacific

FRANCE has suffered a serious diplomatic setback at the South Pacific Forum where it was implicitly accused of perpetuating a colonial situation in New Caledonia in defiance of international law and morality. While the advocates of New Caledonian independence and their supporters emerged strengthened from the test, the Suva (Fiji) summit of 13 South Pacific countries illustrates France's growing isolation in southern seas.

It is too soon, however, to

not an irrevocable condemnation. But it would be pointless to cavil about details so as to evade the blindingly obvious and wriggle out of considering its implications.

France has lost a major battle at Suva. For years Paris has done its best to stop France being dragged back into the dark as an inglorious and unregimented colonial power. The Forum's decision will put France squarely in the dock, which is all the more uncomfortable as it is hard to see other governments overtly rushing to help it out.

### COMMENT

speculate on what might happen to New Caledonia's petition for its case to be considered by the United Nations commission on decolonisation. It is even more premature to say what effect the initiative might have on political developments in Nouméa, Paris, or elsewhere. Indeed, though the Forum considered that the French government's policy was a "big step backwards", it did find "some positive aspects" in its approach to the question. Besides, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac is expected to use his forthcoming visit to Nouméa to put things in their proper perspective.

It is quite possible that this is

France has been put under close watch.

Another obvious point is the way the Forum, which happily went along with the independence-association project previously worked out by Edgar Piani and Laurent Fabius, unanimously repudiated all or part of the plan put forward by Chirac and Bernard Pons. In the Forum's view, the reality of independence cannot be circumvented. The Kanak community also takes this view. And tomorrow it will be shared by the world community, if the initiative to put the matter before the United Nations follows its course.

How can the dilemma be solved? How to avoid raising local, regional and international tensions? How to prevent the New Caledonian issue from turning into an international precedent for France's other overseas departments and territories? The answer now depends primarily on Chirac's government. While this is so and whatever the reasoning that prompted it, the government has taken big risks by going back on the course towards independence-association. With the ultimate risk of missing the bus on decolonisation while still being unable to head off independence. But independence without France.

The decline in French influence that would inevitably follow would be all the more regrettable as the be all the more regrettable as the outcome hoped for in New Caledonia by the South Pacific Forum countries would have doubtless helped to modify the tensions frayed by France's nuclear policy in the South Pacific. But the fact is, while France has lost a battle, it has not lost the war. Or New Caledonia, either.

(August 12)

IS A racing driver a top-notch athlete or a kamikaze? Doctors — who have now muscled into sport in a big way — still do not know quite how to approach Formula One driving, particularly as they have only recently begun to play a prominent role on international circuits.

I am referring of course to the work of doctors before races, and not to medical aid provided during events, often under difficult conditions, which usually involves ultra-specialised first-aid and resuscitation techniques, as well as the whole range of traumatological surgery.

The medical study of Formula One drivers is a new discipline which in France is being practised by only a handful of doctors (Claude Meistelman, Jean-Paul Richalet and Michel Provot) and physiotherapists (Marc Pujol and Marc Saunier). What they have discovered is the extent of the stresses imposed on the human body by top-level motor racing.

This is an area where medical science is on virtually virgin territory. Almost no published work has been done on the subject: techniques are constantly changing; and the subjects of study form a very restricted group (30 drivers or so). The result is that a completely fresh medical eye is being cast on a very high-risk activity.

"It was long believed," says Dr Michel Provot, a rheumatologist by training, "that racing drivers were not true sportsmen at all. It's only in the first few years that they've begun to be regarded as top-flight sporting competitors, in other words as people who deserve to be given a proper medical back-up. The medical treatment they receive has to be all the more efficient because the performance of racing cars is being pushed to ever more sophisticated limits."

Anyone who doubts that racing drivers are athletes need only

Formula One motor racing is an activity that costs its sponsors a great deal of money. But it can also pay considerable dividends. Here, Bernard Lefort talks to François Guiler, promotion and marketing director of the oil company ELF-France with responsibility for sponsoring motor racing, about his company's 20 years or so in the business.

ELF was formed almost 20 years ago, in April 1967. Why did the company get involved in motor racing from its very beginnings?

When I was put in charge of promoting the ELF brand, the aim was to set up a major French company that would immediately market a wide range of oil products. At the time, management wanted the company's technical know-how to act as a spearhead for the brand name.

We noticed that not only were our customers younger, but they included more city-dwellers, than the national average. Market research also showed that technical quality, in the eyes of that target group, was bound up with a motor racing image. So racing struck us as an excellent promotional vehicle.

In the mid-60s, France was pretty low down in the international motor-racing league, wasn't it?

Yes, apart from Alpine-Renault, there were virtually no French cars on the circuits. We scouted around for a partner, and chose Matra, which wasn't very well known at the time. We signed a four-year contract.

With what aim?

The first year, the idea was to continue the Matra programme and try to win the French Formula Three championship. We hoped to get a European Formula Two title in our second year. And in the third our aim was a World Championship victory. Part of our plan was to develop a French-designed engine and win the Le Mans 24-



Alain Prost in his McLaren: golf helps concentration.

## Driven to the limit

By Jean-Yves Nau

consider the exceptional physical and mental qualities required of someone at the wheel of a Formula One prototype, which is as radically different from an ordinary saloon car as Greg Lemond's bicycle is from a penny-farthing or a hobby-horse.

Most people are unaware of the extent and intensity of physical effort required by grand prix driving. According to Dr Provot, most muscular exertion involves the arms and forearms, because of the system of direct steering: "By the end of a race, the drivers are dripping with sweat; they can lose two to three kilos in an hour or two."

This results in considerable dehydration, which can have serious consequences. Many drivers, therefore, fix up a special bottle in their cockpit from which they can suck water during the race.

But physical exertion is not all.

Drivers have to possess extraordinary powers of concentration and anticipation.

"It's no coincidence," says Dr Provot, "that Alain Prost, like quite a lot of racing drivers, plays golf between races. It helps him to develop his exceptional concentration." No one, I imagine, has bothered to find out the pulse rate of golfers. But it has been shown that drivers push their hearts to extremes with 180 to 190 beats a minute.

Everything is conditioned by the vehicle's speed at a given moment: the faster it goes, the more it hugs the ground and the stiffer the steering becomes. Equally, it gets harder and harder to counteract the centrifugal forces which, for example, pull the driver's head to the right when he takes a left-hand bend.

That is why it takes a driver several weeks to appreciate his car's possibilities. This process of

I can see that you aid motor racing in many different ways. But has such technological progress resulted in any spin-offs for the general public?

From a technical point of view, Renault were able to use their racing car experience to launch a range of turbo models; the aerodynamic design of cars has improved; the electronics have become part and parcel of ordinary saloon cars. We've also done some work on fuel saving.

And what about the marketing spin-offs from your investment as sponsors?

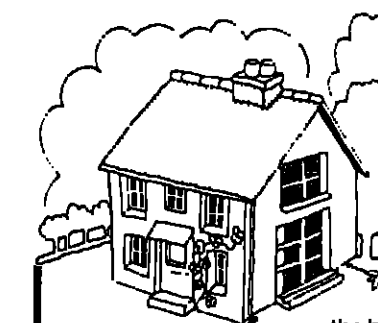
I don't much like the word sponsor. When we began, our main aim was to promote our products. When the ELF brand was first launched we had 4 per cent of the market. Now we have almost 25 per cent, which is a pretty good performance.

But we also hoped that our action in motor racing would increase awareness of our brand outside France.

In this respect we were helped by the worldwide growth and spread of television. Last year, there were 71,000 minutes of television broadcasts devoted to Formula One racing, which is probably more than the time devoted to the Olympic Games or the World Cup.

And the World Championship takes place every year. It's easy to see why the big oil companies such as Shell, Mobil and British Petroleum have moved back into motor racing.

(July 28)



## HOME THOUGHTS?

Let our two GFA companies help you get the best return from the home you buy or the one you own.

### No home in the UK?

We can help. GFA will find the home you want, the money to buy it and a tenant to rent it. Buying a house to let — using a mortgage lender's money — is the best investment you can make.

### Or own one already?

Then why not ask us for a remortgage quotation? This can be to raise extra capital for investment and, most probably, save on your present mortgage costs. If the home is in Surrey, try GFA Property Services for an estimate of rent income — and lower property management fees.

\*\*\*  
Graham Fuller Associates Ltd/GFA Property Services Ltd  
NEW ADDRESS  
1 Phoenix Court, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3EQ, England

### Finance

Graham Fuller Associates Ltd provides a specialised mortgage service to assist expatriate house purchase:

- Mortgages up to 95%
- No surcharges for overseas employment
- Permission to let
- No penalties for early redemption

On our NEW expatriate mortgage schemes terms are flexible and rates are lower than those of most major building societies. Other financial services include pension transfer from previous UK employment, UK tax advice, and offshore investment.

### Houses

GFA Property Services Ltd provides complete house purchase and property management services:

- Property Selection
- Savings on purchase costs
- Advice on mortgages
- Inspection and reports
- Full tenancy services
- Tenant finding and letting

\*\*\*  
FREE BOOKLETS! Return the coupon or telex for details TODAY:

GFA EXPATRIATE SERVICES  
1 Phoenix Court, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3EQ, England  
Telex: 948240 (Ref: 19001230) Telephone: (0483) 85787

Please send me immediate details of:  
☐ House Investment and Property Services  
☐ Remortgage Loans  
☐ Pension Fund Transfers  
☐ Other  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_



Paris has had no "city gate" to speak of since the ring of fortifications was demolished in 1919. Jacques Chirac, Mayor of Paris and Prime Minister of France, has decided to change all that.

On July 24, he unveiled plans for two 50-metre-high constructions designed by Olivier-Claude Cacoub, which are due to be built at the Porte Maillot in the middle of the celebrated vista from the Arc de Triomphe to the La Défense business quarter on the western edge of Paris.

A private group of developers plans to

build over a 1,200-metre stretch of the Boulevard Périphérique (the ring road that runs round Paris) between Place de l'Assemblée Nationale and the Porte de la Chapelle.

The developers wish to use the space gained in this way, combined with neighbouring parcels of land, to build a 400-room luxury hotel, the two monumental units forming the "gate", which will house an international trade centre, and a complex containing a 1,200-seat conference hall, an exhibition hall, and offices.

These facilities will complement those of the existing Palais des Congrès at the Porte Maillot, which can no longer meet current needs. It is planned to set aside three hectares for a sports ground, which will have to be moved from its present position, and for gardens constructed over the Boulevard Périphérique.

The developers believe that their outlay of 1,000 million francs (about £100 million) will be more than recovered by the sale of 125,000 square metres of offices, 2,000 parking places, and the luxury hotel's 4,000 square

metres. The total cost of the operation is put at £2,800 million (\$280 million). If work starts in October 1988 as planned, the new Porte Maillot could be inaugurated in October 1990.

Chirac also announced that in a few weeks he would reveal plans for developing four other Paris gates, this time on the eastern side of the capital — Porte de Charenton, Porte de Bagneux, Porte des Lilas and Porte de La Villette.

Here, Frédéric Edelmann puts forward his reservations about the Porte Maillot scheme.

## Another 'carbuncle' on the face of Paris

By Frédéric Edelmann

JACQUES CHIRAC'S plans for the Porte Maillot, and the manner of their announcement, seem to herald a return to the aesthetics and practices current in the 60s, and, by that token, the abandonment of a policy which, since the early 70s, had tended to promote architecture of genuine quality.

The Porte Maillot scheme is the first of its kind to be announced since last March's elections gave France a right-wing Prime Minister and a Socialist President. It demonstrates, in my view, that good architecture and "cohabitation" are incompatible. Cohabitation upsets one of the most firmly established principles of high-quality architectural patronage — and also one of the most debatable when used in a rashly or unimaginatively: the ukase.

Oddly enough, the announcement of the Porte Maillot scheme coincided with the death of the architect Fernand Pouillon, who, during his stormy career, got to know all about official patronage and learnt how best to exploit it.

Pouillon, who was briefly a Communist just after the last war, began his career in Marseilles, then moved to Paris, where his influential friends dropped him as soon as he ran into financial trouble. He designed buildings for the last of the French consuls in Algeria, then was converted to Islam. Later, his exile in North Africa was eased by large-scale government commissions. In the end, more or less forced to leave Algeria, Pouillon succeeded in falling on his feet when he returned to France.

He was one of those rare architects who combined political opportunism with a keen awareness of what his profession entailed (as can be seen from certain stylistic constants), an independence of mind that no one has ever presumed to deny, and, even more unusually, a talent which, although flawed, has today been recognised or rediscovered.

Opportunism has been a permanent feature of the French architectural Establishment. In its most persistent form, it has produced some of the most egregious mandarins in French history.

But in the immediate postwar period, which saw the rise of Pouillon before turning him into a scapegoat, there was a twofold phenomenon which was exacerbated by the requirements of rebuilding — architectural mediocrity and a lowering of standards in architectural schools on the one hand, and an extraordinary upsurge of financial interests on the other. They were together responsible for destroying more or less all manifestations of conscientiousness and refinement in the architectural profession.

It was at that time that Raymond Lopez's architectural office laid down the areas of Paris that were to be reassessed — the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th and 20th arrondissements.

After Lopez's death in 1966, the remaining sectors were carved up between his partners. That is how Paris came to be saddled with the "magnificent" new developments that now grace the area around Place d'Italie, ports of Belleville, and the riverside Front de Seine in the 15th arrondissement.

For be it from me to imply that these good men were driven by

mean-minded or dishonest motives. It was certainly with entirely clear consciences, bolstered by the friendship and trust of Paris councillors, that they perpetrated some of the greatest horrors in the history of architecture and town-planning. The only consolation, and a bitter one at that, is to be found in the fact that Brussels and, to a lesser extent, London fell victim to the same process.

When Valéry Giscard d'Estaing began his presidential term in 1974, it looked almost as though the government had suddenly become alive to the problem. There was talk of "architectural quality".

So does cohabitation mark a step backward? Jacques Chirac, who no doubt runs Paris well enough, has not often in the past shown any great discernment in architectural matters. Whether this is because of bad advice or lack of interest is hard to tell.

But in any case he showed he was easy to please when he plumped for the project that resulted in the present Les Halles complex, on the site of Paris's former central market. It is an aesthetic disaster that cannot be redeemed by Chemetov's tortuous yet ample and neat designs below ground. An aficionado of Paris's

Paris, Chirac seemed satisfied with a moderate town-planning policy; and as regards architecture proper, he acted sometimes with indecision, sometimes with a kind of honest gaudiness. But he is now Prime Minister as well — and who do we see coming up fast after the first bend of the cohabitation stakes? None other than that outsider, Olivier-Claude Cacoub.

Cacoub has had his finger in more or less every pie, mostly in black African countries and in Tunisia and Morocco, but also in France (the Orly-La Source university campus, Grenoble University's administrative offices and the extension of the original Palais des Festivals in Cannes).

Cacoub has been very prolific, producing anything from office blocks, hotels and ministries to stadiums, cemeteries and monuments of all kinds, which hover awkwardly between a bland international style (in the same sense as one can talk of bland international cuisine) and unbridled pastiche — a neo-French garden, a reminder of Omar's Mosque in Jerusalem, a Tahitian fard or an "Andalusian" palace, all in the most unlikely contexts.

Until recently Cacoub was little known within France. Then suddenly he appeared on the Paris scene: after various exports and associations had been struggling for years to ensure that François Blondel's Saint-Germain covered market would be mutilated as little as possible in the course of its renovation, Cacoub's solution — a flashy crown of tinted glass and concrete of the kind that has become outmoded even on the Côte d'Azur — was selected.

Work on the 17th-century market building has not started yet, but all those who fought tooth and nail, often against each other, for their idea of what should be done to the old market still turn green and glassy-eyed at any mention of Cacoub's monstrosity. The last time a piece of architecture caused such a collective billous attack was when the Palais des Congrès was put up at the Porte Maillot.

And it is at another part of the Porte Maillot that Cacoub, like some latter-day Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, has been commissioned to design the first of Paris's five new city gates. His idea is to erect, on top of the Boulevard Périphérique, two symmetrical glass- and granite-faced buildings, one on either side of Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, to which they are supposed to act as a gate.

They will look like a kind of semi-circular triumphal arch which has been cut in half and whose two sides have been eased apart to let through a stream of traffic. It is one of those "grand gestures" which Cacoub says he likes, and which were still greatly appreciated in the postwar years.

Cacoub's "gate", a French-style reinterpretation of American megastructures (in other words it

possesses not a shred of grace, elegance or majesty), will be plunked down, American-style, bang in the middle of one of those well-balanced, grandiose axes produced by the genius of French town-planners.

As if seeking an excuse for this denial of national qualities and exaltation of national shortcomings, the planners tell us that the two-part complex will cover over the Boulevard Périphérique (which is no bad thing) and be financed by a Québécois property developer (so much the better).

But that is no excuse for Cacoub's thoroughly pre-1968 constructions, which look as friendly as a pair of pincers and as dynamic as two chunks of car tyre. Even the Palais des Congrès, in all its infinite platitude, was set back from the sweeping avenue that runs from the Musée du Louvre to La Défense via the Arc de Triomphe and the Porte Maillot.

It is the longest and most celebrated vista of its kind in the world, one of those successes that is as much due to the passage of time as to the hand of man, and which should not be tampered with before every conceivable precaution has been taken.

It is instructive to look at the way the designs for constructions at either end of the vista were selected. True, President Mitterrand's choice of Pei for the Grand Louvre project was a one-man decision — a ukase, if you like; but he did call on the services of one of the best-known architects in the world who had already shown his pincer in equally tricky contexts.

Mitterrand was making sure he got a design worthy of the Louvre. And the pyramid, the most contested part of the scheme, has not prevented a broad body of opinion coming out in favour of the Grand Louvre as a whole.

But the public will have to wait before being able to judge, as the Porte Maillot project could well see the light of day before the Grand Louvre, whose construction has been postponed by the present government.

The powers that be long vacillated over what to erect at the so-called Tête Défense, at the other end of the axis; and many a design was scrapped — wisely — before an international competition was finally organised. The jury chose the Spreckelsen project, which fortunately happens to be one of the most brilliantly imaginative designs to have emerged from a competition in recent years.

Should not the "city gate" which Jacques Chirac, in his twin decision-making capacity as mayor and Prime Minister, wishes to erect at the Porte Maillot between the Louvre and the Tête Défense be subjected to the same treatment? But then perhaps Chirac, in all sincerity, feels that there is not much to choose between modern architects anyway.

(August 1)

**Le Monde**

Directeur: André Fontaine  
World copyright by  
© Le Monde, Paris  
All rights strictly reserved

# The Washington Post

## It's Getting Late To Save S. Africa For The West

Charles Krauthammer

THE workings of the Senate calendar and poetic justice produced an exquisite coincidence of issues on Capitol Hill: Nicaragua and South Africa.

Some anti-Communist senators were threatening to filibuster the \$100 million aid approved by the House and previously voted by the Senate. Most of these senators were caught in a box. They also wanted to pass sanctions against South Africa, but if they tied up the Senate over the Contras, they couldn't.

You picks your dictator, you takes your double standard. Yet only one double standard, the President's, has gotten much attention. The President says that democratizing Nicaragua is so important that, to help bring it about, one may impose sanctions that add to the burdens of Nicaragua's suffering people. But in South Africa, he says, the need to bring about democracy pales before the hardship that divestment would cause its suffering people.

made the case in his ham-handed way: diamonds and chromium and platinum and manganese and sea anions. South Africa has a pro-Western government, and if we destabilize it through sanctions, it might collapse and be followed by chaos (bad) or communism (worse).

The problem with this logic is that national consciousness and race consciousness among South African blacks are now too far advanced to be turned back. Foreign Minister Pik Botha recently said that a black President was probably inevitable. Once it is clear that white rule is finished — and if white South Africans have so decided, that leaves no one on Earth believing otherwise — the only remaining question is how to ensure (to what little extent we can) a non-catastrophic outcome. For our strategic purposes, that means a non-communist one.

Communism for South Africa is not a hypothetical issue. The other week in London, the South African Communist Party (SACP) threw itself a coming out party to celebrate its 65th anniversary. (See last week's issue, page 9.) It boasts a "precious and unique relationship" to the ANC, the most venerable revolutionary organization in South Africa.

This is not self-flattery. Communist party chairman Joe Slovo is also the chief of the ANC military wing. The lowest estimate of SACP members on the ANC executive committee of 30, is 13. What will South Africa look like after the revolution? Such questions, says Slovo, "will be decided by the actual correlation of class forces which have come to power."

Don't we know. Which means that the main American diplomatic objective must be to bolster those South Africans who don't use phrases like "correlation of class forces" and will resist people who do.

How? Sanctions are emotionally and morally necessary, and may win us some points with nationalists, but they may already be beside the point. Market forces are delivering the real economic blows to South Africa. The key issue is contact and leverage. It is time to constructively engage the opposition, starting with moderates, like Zulu chief Gatsha Buthelezi, and including the ANC leadership.

One message should be to the non-communists among them: If you want our help both before and after the revolution, a less fraternal embrace of communists would be appreciated. George Shultz has said he is ready to talk to Oliver Tambo, the ANC President. The other week Shultz quietly authorized the first ambassador-level contact with the ANC in Lusaka.

It is not too late. We had a pretty bad record on the question of ties to Franco, Castano and even Ian Smith. But neither Spain nor Portugal nor Zimbabwe took the road to Moscow.

But it is late. And there are only three political alternatives. That South Africa will become a Kenya (that chance probably passed 25 years ago), a Zimbabwe (a chance now passing us by), or an Ethiopia (a rising prospect).

Sanctions are a sideshow. They are a didactic, not a diplomatic, tool. Pass them, then get on with the real work in South Africa: talk



## Expediency Triumphs Over Principles

By Lou Cannon

ONE of President Reagan's favorite dictums, delivered in 1976, was that years of massive arms spending had made the Soviet Union an "economic basket case." Reagan suggested that a combination of Soviet economic conditions and concerns about his "Star Wars" missile-defense system have led Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to the realization that an agreement reducing the superpowers' nuclear arsenals would be mutually beneficial.

Why then relieve the economic pressure on the Soviets at a critical time? Why infuriate Canada and Australia and create the conditions for what Secretary of State George Shultz calls "a subsidy war"? The answers to these questions are buried in farm-state political concerns, not in Reagan's catechism on the right way to reach presidential decisions.

"When you ask the senators from the farm states what their top three problems are, they reply agriculture, agriculture and agriculture," said a White House aide after the decision. Political surveys in these states do not necessarily support the view that the Soviet wheat sale will keep the Senate in Republican hands, but the fears expressed by Majority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.) were enough to convince Reagan to ignore Shultz and his own best instincts.

White House spokesmen tried to justify Reagan's retreat from principle by observing that he had opposed President Carter's grain embargo against the Soviets in 1980.

Only a few days after he agreed to sell four million tons of wheat to

the Soviets at a subsidy of \$13. a bushel, Reagan was arguing that years of massive arms spending had made the Soviet Union an "economic basket case." Reagan suggested that a combination of Soviet economic conditions and concerns about his "Star Wars" missile-defense system have led Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to the realization that an agreement reducing the superpowers' nuclear arsenals would be mutually beneficial.

Why then relieve the economic pressure on the Soviets at a critical time? Why infuriate Canada and Australia and create the conditions for what Secretary of State George Shultz calls "a subsidy war"? The answers to these questions are buried in farm-state political concerns, not in Reagan's catechism on the right way to reach presidential decisions.

"When you ask the senators from the farm states what their top three problems are, they reply agriculture, agriculture and agriculture," said a White House aide after the decision. Political surveys in these states do not necessarily support the view that the Soviet wheat sale will keep the Senate in Republican hands, but the fears expressed by Majority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.) were enough to convince Reagan to ignore Shultz and his own best instincts.

White House spokesmen tried to justify Reagan's retreat from principle by observing that he had opposed President Carter's grain embargo against the Soviets in 1980.

1980 and lifted it in 1981. What they do not say is that Reagan's original decision to oppose the embargo was taken for crass political reasons.

After Carter imposed the grain embargo in retaliation for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Reagan's inclination was to support it. But he was then involved in a hard-fought battle for the Republican presidential nomination. George Bush, his principal opponent in the Iowa caucuses, had come out against the embargo.

At a strategy session in Los Angeles early in January 1980, Reagan advisers stressed the importance of grain exports to Iowa farmers. Reagan at first resisted their point, then agreed to oppose the embargo. He lost Iowa anyway.

Bad decisions often lead to other bad decisions. As President, Reagan overrode the objections of his first Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, and lifted the embargo — on the political grounds that he had promised to do so during the campaign.

No doubt, as Shultz said, the Soviets are "chortling" that they pay less for American food than Americans do. No doubt they are confirmed in their ideological view that the profit motive they claim to despise has the power to prevail over U.S. national interest. The Soviets may indeed be an "economic basket case," as Reagan claimed. What he should have added is that he stands ready to fill the Soviet basket with cheap wheat paid for by American taxpayers.

## Vote Expected To Influence Japan

By William Claiborne

coal could alter Japan's posture on sanctions, too.

The United States imports only a relatively modest 800,000 metric tons of South African coal annually. But Japan, which has indicated that it would follow the U.S. lead on sanctions, imports 9 million metric tons and European Community members buy 24 million more, representing 80 percent of South Africa's total coal exports.

The EEC is scheduled to meet in September to consider tougher sanctions as a measure against

South Africa's apartheid policies. Mrs Thatcher, who opposed such sanctions at the Commonwealth meeting in London earlier this month, already has said that she would go along with sanctions against South African coal and steel.

"The most interesting question is whether there is any pre-cooked deal with the Germans, the French and the English for European Community sanctions," said Michael Spicer, international affairs adviser with the Anglo American Corp. of South Africa.

©1986 The Washington Post Co. All rights reserved.



## The Washington Post

### Miss Bhutto Back In Gaol

BENAZIR BHUTTO has successfully baited the Pakistani government into jailing her for violating a brief ban on political rallies. That was a mistake on the government's part. Much better to free her and let her go back to addressing rallies.

Since Miss Bhutto's purpose is to depict the government as a brutal autocracy with no real intention of moving the country toward democracy, incarceration gives her an enormous tactical advantage. The opposition that she leads is now going to try to overthrow the government in a popular uprising like Corazon Aquino's post-election revolution in the Philippines. But a rising in Pakistan is very unlikely to follow the uplifting and peaceful pattern of the Philippines where the army, with hardly a shot fired, swung against the government. In Pakistan, the army is the government.

Until last December, Pakistan had lived for eight years under the military regime imposed by then-general, now president, Mohammed Zia ul-Haq, who overthrew and hanged Miss Bhutto's father. But at the turn of the year President Zia lifted martial law, appointed a civilian prime minister and began the cautious widening of freedom that permitted Miss Bhutto to return from her self-imposed exile and begin organizing the opposition.

The passage from military rule to democracy is always a perilous one. The question raised by the past week's events is whether Pakistan's progress toward parliamentary self-government is going to continue. That progress, you would have to say, has been at least temporarily interrupted, although there is no visible reason to believe that it has been reversed.

The United States has many interests in Pakistan, one of which certainly is political stability. The resistance to the Russian occupation of Afghanistan can continue only as long as the guerrillas have a secure base in Pakistan. But there is also a deep American interest in the evolution of a parliamentary democracy. Which of these interests comes first? The State Department indicated the proper inclination when it put out a statement Thursday, and repeated it Friday, regretting the deaths, the arrests and the limitations of freedom of movement. Pakistan faces obvious risks in proceeding toward democracy, but they are the right risks to take, and they are necessary.



Miss Benazir Bhutto on her way to police headquarters after her arrest.

### Finding Markets For Wheat

THE FARMERS' distress is forcing President Reagan into an awkward straddle. He likes to disavow federal aid, as he did at his press conference last week in Chicago, and tell the farmers that their current troubles are largely the result of mismanaged attempts in the past to help them. But he goes on to promise the farmers, as he also did in Chicago, that "our commitment to helping them is unshakable."

The farmers' anxiety and the congressional response to it have focused on the sharp drop in American agricultural exports. But the basic patterns in the world's grain markets are being set by forces over which no government has much control. In the 1970s the rapid rise in standards of living throughout most of the world drove food consumption up rapidly. People began eating more meat, which pushed up the demand for grain to feed cattle. Farmers throughout the world raised production steadily. Then, around 1980, the growth of demand for food suddenly slowed.

In the developed world, governments were fighting inflation. In Latin America, the debt crisis forced drastic curtailment of imports. Throughout the world economic growth rates dropped. But farmers kept expanding their output, both in the exporting countries and in most of the countries to which they had been selling. The Soviet Union has been having its usual difficulties, but the Soviets have been more than offset elsewhere. In China, for one dramatic example, wheat production has risen 60 percent over the past five years.

For the United States, the peak in grain exports was in 1980-81. Since then, the trend has been down. One reason was the high exchange rate of the dollar. Another was the 1981 farm bill, which supported American European Common Market has been using lavish subsidies, in conspicuous violation of international trading rules, in its desperate efforts to dump its enormous surpluses abroad. The European subsidies have had the effect of pushing down world prices generally. The current American attempt to outsubsidize the Europeans will push them down even farther.

Consumption of food is still rising, but world grain exports have been flat for several years. As long as that continues, one country can increase its exports only at the expense of others. Four years ago the United States had nearly half of the world export market in wheat but currently, because of the too-high dollar and the too-high price supports, it has hardly more than one-fourth. It is now going to try to win back some of its lost customers but, in a world that produces more grain than it consumes, that's going to be slow and uncertain work.

©1986 The Washington Post Co. All rights reserved.

## Why Botha Went Into Reverse

JOHANNESBURG — An undisclosed decision by the South African government to break off its dialogue on reforms with the western powers and face up to sanctions turned a rare special convention of the ruling National Party last week into a superlative exercise, according to political analysts here.

When President Botha announced the special convention last January amid a blaze of publicity emphasizing his commitment to reform, it was billed as a watershed event at which delegates would endorse constitutional amendments giving the black majority a role in central government. But when the party delegates assembled in Durban there were no amendments for them to consider. Botha instead used the convention as a platform for defiance of sanctions and for drawing more clearly the bottom line beyond which his reform program is not to go. (Report, page 7).

What happened, according to some informed political analysts, is that between the announcement and the holding of the convention, the government decided on a change of strategy that nullified the convention's original purpose. They say the government decided to abandon efforts that had been aimed at assuaging western critics and persuading them, in Botha's phrase, that Pretoria acknowledged apartheid to be "outdated" and was committed to moving away from it. The new priorities were to take a public stand against what was perceived as foreign interference and make a determined effort to break continuing resistance in black townships.

"The whole political climate and context has changed," said Andre du Toit, professor of political philosophy at the Afrikaans University of Stellenbosch, which is considered close to government thinking. "There has been some backtracking on quite a few reform issues and a clear decision to back out of the whole framework of discussion with the Americans and other westerners that the government was engaged in at the beginning of the year."

He pinpointed the moment of decision as mid-May, when the government was engaged in discussions with a special Eminent Persons Group appointed by the Commonwealth to assess whether South Africa's claims to be dismantling apartheid were meaningful. The 48-nation alliance was seeking guidance on whether or not to impose sanctions.

Du Toit said those discussions convinced the Botha administration that it could never end the pressure through dialogue and concession. Each policy concession would be followed by a new demand, again backed by the threat of sanctions. "I think the Eminent Persons Group brought home to them that although they could play it out, there was no end to the process," du Toit said. "They felt they were being pressured into negotiating themselves out of power, so they decided to call a halt and face the threat of sanctions now."

There was a sudden growth of the Afrikaner far-rightist organizations at that time, and on May 22, as the Commonwealth group arrived in Cape Town for another round of talks, the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement rattled the government by breaking up a National Party rally in the northern city of Pieterburg. Du Toit said this gave impetus to the decision. The far-rightist parties were accusing the government of being too compliant in its relations with foreign countries, and a major opinion poll published at the time showed that a growing number of Afrikaners, who are the

backbone of the government's support, shared this view.

Another far-rightist charge, which seemed to unnerve Botha, was that the government was failing to end the persistent violence in black areas because it was hesitant to get really tough with the blacks for fear of upsetting the Americans and other outsiders.

Another leading Afrikaner political scientist, Hermann Giliomee, said key decisions were taken in mid-May not to release the imprisoned leader of the African National Congress, Nelson Mandela, nor to lift the ban outlawing the ANC, as the West was demanding.

Such decisions taken in the inner councils of South Africa's secretive government are seldom disclosed, but Giliomee said he has been told that the decision was taken by Botha, who felt that releasing Mandela — who has acquired a messianic image in the black community during his 24 years of incarceration — would be too risky. Once that was decided, other decisions flowed from it, Giliomee said, because Mandela's release and the unbanning of the ANC had become the focal point of Western pressure.

Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, former opposition leader in the white-dominated Parliament who has been trying to garner support for the idea of negotiating with the ANC, said a significant segment of Botha's Cabinet had come round to his view by mid-May, but then the president ruled it out. He suggested Botha was swayed by the security chiefs, Defense Minister

By Allister Sparks

Magnus Malan and Law and Order Minister Louie Grange.

Events bear this out. After an initial visit to South Africa last February, the Commonwealth group drafted a plan aimed at opening the way for the first direct negotiations between Pretoria and the ANC. The plan, which the State Department had indicated offered hope of a breakthrough, involved Pretoria agreeing to release Mandela and legalize the ANC, in return for its declaring a truce in its guerrilla struggle to overthrow apartheid and agreeing to negotiate.

Early in May, Foreign Minister R. F. (Pik) Botha, who is thought to be one of those who favors Mandela's release, sent a special envoy, Carl von Hirschberg, to London, reportedly to tell the Commonwealth group that South Africa was not opposed in principle to freeing the black nationalist leader and legalizing the ANC but wanted assurances of western backing if it had to act against resulting violence.

Apparently encouraged, the group returned to South Africa to meet Pik Botha on May 13. As some recounted afterward, he arrived late, apparently delayed by a long Cabinet meeting which presumably was taking its decision on Mandela. He seemed distressed and accused the group of causing difficulties for South Africa.

President Botha did not see the Commonwealth members. Instead they were advised to attend a speech, in which the president slammed the "unsolicited interference" of "meddling groups visiting the country."

Four days later, after a brief visit to the ANC's exile headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, and just 30 minutes before they were due to meet with key members of Botha's Cabinet in Cape Town, the group was told that South Africa had just launched a series of commando raids on ANC facilities in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana. The mission in ruins, the group returned to London that night and prepared a

negative report that led to the Commonwealth accepting a sanctions package and helped influence last week's 84-14 vote in favor of expanded sanctions in the U.S. Senate.

Soon afterward, the government's information bureau issued a heavily publicized booklet labeling the ANC and Mandela as communists and making it clear that there was no chance of Pretoria agreeing to negotiate with them.

Two weeks later, President Botha declared a general state of emergency and his security forces began rounding up an estimated 10,000 political detainees, most of them black. In a tough speech to Parliament that day, Botha spelled out his rejection of the western initiatives and his readiness to face sanctions.

Declaring that South Africa was prepared to "go it alone," the president said: "South Africans will not allow themselves to be humiliated in order to prevent sanctions. If we have to be dependent on our own Creator and our own ability alone, then I say let it be."

There remained one more event to underscore the South African decision. Although the writing was on the wall, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, in a bid to deflect pressure for sanctions from her Commonwealth and European Community partners, sent Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe to South Africa for a final attempt at persuasion.

The mild-mannered Howe was given a public brush-off. Botha called a press conference to accuse Howe of trying to strangle South Africa into releasing Mandela unconditionally and unban the ANC.

"I can never commit suicide by accepting threats and prescriptions from outside forces and handing South Africa over to communist forces in disguise," Botha said.

Then came last week's special convention of the National Party, by now a dead letter as an occasion for convincing western leaders of South Africa's commitment to dismantling apartheid and ending white-minority rule. It became an occasion for firing up the followers to face the sanctions instead.

The party leaders still proclaimed their commitment to reform. But in laying down the guidelines, the convention set as a basic principle the concept of "group self-determination." That means the different race groups, living in their own areas and going to segregated schools, would as far as possible administer their affairs through their own political institutions.

Other institutions also are to be established where representatives from all the race groups can come together to discuss matters of common concern. The whites would dominate these institutions and decisions must be reached by consensus, which means the whites could veto changes judged too drastic.

Botha spoke of black townships like Soweto possibly being given the status of city-states, which could become nominally independent. In effect, this would extend the policy of rural "homelands" for blacks to the cities.

Constitutional Affairs Minister Chris Heunis talked of establishing a "Council of State," which Botha likened to the European Parliament. They gave no details, but this is presumably where the black majority is to exercise its central government rights.

None of it means an abandonment of white-minority control. Apartheid is being reshaped, but its fundamentals remain. Engagement with the West was threatening those fundamentals.

THE GUARDIAN, August 24, 1986

THE GUARDIAN, August 24, 1986

## The Reality Of The New Nicaraguans

By Joanne Omang

MANAGUA — Julio Castillo, an exemplary product of Nicaraguan revolutionary education, leaves next month for six years in the Soviet Union. To him, this is a reward for his achievements, and will be his ticket to leadership through civil engineering in building a new Nicaragua.

Castillo, 22, was a courier for older Sandinista rebels as they overthrew dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979. After seven years of postrevolutionary high school and military training, he is probably as close as any Nicaraguan youth to the leftist Sandinista government's ideal of "the New Nicaraguan": class-conscious, socially involved and devoted to the defense of a Sandinista future.

The term is an echo of the "New Soviet Man" envisaged for generations by Soviet propagandists. In the textbooks, group activities and media messages that have shaped this new person, the U.S. government is the source of most of the trauma in Nicaragua's past, all of its present suffering and much of the misery of the world's poor. Work is noble, the poor are to be helped and honored, and the Sandinistas are national saviors, embattled in a military struggle for Nicaragua's future against the marauding Yankee.

Young people who fervently espouse this line are still a minority, but there is no doubt that their number is increasing. As a result, the Sandinista revolution is slowly consolidating a socialist-oriented future, even as U.S.-backed rebels are poised to escalate their assaults. "We waited too long" in trying to oust the Sandinistas from power, said one U.S. official in the region.

Half of Nicaragua's 3 million people are 16 or younger, and most only dimly remember the Somoza era. Education Minister Fernando Cardenal said in an interview that in those days, education promoted consumption, greed and self-advancement, and reached only a small number of relatively privileged Nicaraguans. Now one in three Nicaraguans is either a child attending one of the 1,400 schools the Sandinistas built in their first five years, or an adult taking night courses, according to the ministry.

"The whole revolution is educational," Cardenal said. "We are trying to create men and women with a sense of justice, brotherhood and self-sacrifice for other people and for society. . . . We are trying to close existing class divisions."

The terminology and the methods drawn from Soviet bloc models, but Nicaragua's economy makes desks and books scarce and a typewriter a luxury. Students can't abandon classes for the harvest or second jobs, while underpaid and badly trained teachers often do not show up after working full time elsewhere.

The theory of a new Nicaraguan does not square with the black market, loose laws and smuggling that keep Nicaragua afloat. A devoutly Catholic tradition and an American-oriented culture of blue jeans, Coca-Cola, rock music and baseball also tend to undermine socialist asceticism. "You can get anything here if you have money," a 17-year-old youth at an expensive discotheque said smugly.

Still, a second-grader asked to sing a school song for an American visiting Granada, 30 miles south-east of Managua, happily offered the official Sandinista hymn, including the line that translates, "We will fight the Yankees, enemies of humanity."

Julio Castillo, son of a taxi driver and grandson of a chauffeur, is a beneficiary of the drive for a New Man, the first of his family to finish high school. A thousand

like him will receive scholarships to a Soviet bloc nation this year. He is glad the new schooling is political. "I hadn't understood before how important it is for youth to take part in helping the country," he said.

Within two weeks of taking power, the Sandinistas mustered 60,000 student volunteers, includ-

*The Sandinista revolution is slowly consolidating a socialist-oriented future, even as US-backed rebels are poised to escalate their assaults. "We waited too long" in trying to oust the Sandinistas from power, said one U.S. official in the region.*

ing Julio, to teach Nicaragua's peasants how to read and write. At 15, Julio spent six months sleeping in a hammock and eating little besides beans as he gave reading lessons in the isolated jungle of Zelaya province.

Other students who asked not to be named said they went in fear they would lose academic credit if they did not. "It was totally useless. We didn't know how to teach and the campesinos were suspicious," said one young woman who also went to Zelaya.

The ministry claims the illiteracy rate dropped from 53 percent to less than 15 percent, but officials acknowledged that many peasants learned little and retained little of what they did learn. The officials assert, however, and critics agree, that the experience was a political triumph: the peasants had what was probably their first pleasant government contact, and students observed extreme poverty and did real work, many for the first time.

Some, like Julio, loved the program and joined the Sandinista Youth organization that had helped set it up "to take part in the revolution in a well-organized way," he said. The Sandinista Youth, 14 to 27 years of age, are the revolution's chief tool and energy source. In factories, they hold meetings to discuss production and problems, and at school beach trips as well as rallies. Critics charge that they are also the leaders of the *turbas divinas*, or divine mobs, that harass opposition leaders. They say the Sandinista Youth get college scholarships before non-members, and that men can avoid the front lines during their compulsory military service.

Sandinista Youth director Carlos Hurtado said the charges were false, "an effort to demean the revolution." He claimed a nationwide voluntary membership of 55,000 militants and many more "affiliates," a third higher than critics' estimates.

On July 23, several thousand youths turned out in Leon, 55 miles northwest of Managua, to honor the memory of four students slain by Somoza troops in 1959. After speeches, they paraded in homemade costumes parodying Uncle Sam and his "puppet" rebels and priests.

The Sandinista Youth's monthly magazine, *Los Muchachos* (The Kids), will record the event, Hurtado said. A recent issue featured well-written articles on Stevie Wonder, masturbation, baseball, a demobilized soldier adjusting to civilian life, and a picture of a Bulgarian woman in a string bikini. "Ho Chi Minh says the best a country has is its youth," the caption said.

One 17-year-old who asked not to be identified is not a New Nicaraguan. By her own description, she is an apathetic second-

year student at a small Catholic high school near her home in a poorer part of the city than Julio's. "Before the revolution, we just went to class. Now there are a pile of organizations and we go to meetings and projects all the time instead of studying," she said.

Parents and teachers questioned often complained that frequent

Sergio Ramirez, explained the consciousness-raising technique: "One high school there were 1,000 students sitting on the floor because they had no desks," she said. "Instead of writing letters complaining, we built desks . . . painted the place and planted bushes. Besides being necessary, this is a very good education," she continued. "When a student paints the wall, he is not going to put his feet on it."

This creative use of the chaotic Nicaraguan economy is called "education in poverty" by Sandinista officials. "We supply teachers, books, a workbook and a pencil for each child," Cardenal said. "The community builds and maintains the school," often housing and feeding the teachers as well. Cuba sent 2,000 teachers who stayed for three years.

The Sandinistas have replaced all textbooks through grade four with their own texts, printed in East Germany. Most U.S.-donated texts for upper grades have vanished, and books in use from other nations are widely reproduced and shared among several students. The new books are selectively photocopied "History of the Sandinista Revolution" treats legendary military leader Eden ("Comandante Zero") Pastora, who turned against the Sandinistas, as a real zero, ignoring his leadership of the pivotal taking of the Somoza congress in 1979. Cardenal said the text was an unauthorized draft and called the omission a mistake.

Cardenal countered that the United States had invaded Nicaragua a dozen times and that children saw armed soldiers every day. "To hide that reality would be to delude the child," he said. Until recently, church-run schools often ignored some Sandinista directives and inserted religious content. "Religion is part of the historical truth as well,"

Continued on page 18

### Young Soldiers Fade Away

BRUSSELS — You begin to think you've got a grip on the nuts and bolts of strategic planning at the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Then, a West German official blindsides you with the introduction of yet one more threat to the balance of forces on Europe's Central Front: the "Pillen-Knick."

You think instantly of some new, smart bomb. But this bombshell is demographic. "Pillen-Knick" is German shorthand for the certain prospect of a drastic decline in draft-eligible West Germans, owing to the introduction and acceptance of birth-control pills in West Germany roughly 20 years ago.

Already, there is evidence of the potential impact: the tours of duty for West German draftees will decline from 15 months to 13 extended from 15 months to 13 months. This is not the sort of thing a prudent government does without strong reasons, the more so with general elections only five months away.

For now, the solidly pro-NATO government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl seems a safe bet to survive January's electoral test. But that may only postpone the day of reckoning with the Social Democrats, whose policies would make West Germany a somewhat less sturdy keystone of Western European defenses.

In any event, the political repercussions from the "Pillen-Knick," to say nothing of the strategic implications, are beginning to show and the root cause of the problem is irreversible. There is not a lot you can do, effectively, about a 20-year drop in the birth-rate.

Result: West Germany is staring at a 50 percent drop in the pool of available 18-year-olds just 10 years from now. By 1989, the annual crop of 18-year-olds will fall below the number (260,000) needed to maintain current force levels. By 1994, the supply will have sunk to 153,000, according to

projections. That will require a further stretching of the duty tours; it may also require expanding the call-ups of reserves. Either prospect plays powerfully into the hands of a political opposition with strong neutralist tendencies and of a "peace movement" ever ready to pick up on popular discontent with the burden imposed by NATO membership.

This unsettling prospect becomes all the more so when you consider that West Germany furnishes about half of the alliance ground forces manning the Central Front. The United States, which accounts for nearly one-third, has its own version of the "baby crash."

Philip Geyelin

According to figures available here, the 18-year-old slice of the U.S. population will decline from 3.8 million in 1985 to 3.2 million in 1995, leaving some analysts to conclude that the American volunteer force will also have to be raised from a smaller manpower pool.

So there you have it. The facts of political, economic, as well as biological life rudely intruding on the grand design of those — Henry Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Democratic front-runner Gary Hart, for example — who would reorder NATO deployments by drawing down on the U.S. commitment of ground forces, with the Europeans taking up the slack. The United States would increasingly limit itself to an air and sea role, thus freeing up American forces now in Europe to meet global security obligations.

The Pacific Basin, it is said, will need more attention. The threat of an outbreak of World War III in Europe, which some say has receded, must be increasingly Europe's problem. Why can't the Europeans, with an aggregate eco-

nomic base far stronger than that of the Soviets and at least the equal of ours, be more like us?

But that's exactly the point. By and large, our NATO partners are just like us. That is to say they are independent nations with their own cultural identity and their own reluctance to surrender sovereignty. Our NATO partners are peopled by creatures of habit who resist, as Americans tend to, any sharp departures from whatever they are accustomed to a certain standard of living, for example, familiar social-welfare safety nets, and the psychological security of having a fixed number of U.S. troops on the scene. It is only in this sense that the existing number of U.S. troops in Europe (somewhere in excess of 300,000) is held to be sacrosanct.

So it is all very well to predicate a new alliance relationship on a European obligation to do more on its own behalf. But "Pillen-Knick" is compelling evidence of how difficult it is to get people in a free society to conduct their lives according to the security interests of the state. The Soviets would have their own harsh way of dealing with the problem, just as the People's Republic of China has its way of dealing with just the opposite demographic problem.

But the West Germans must deal with it by imposing an added burden on their young citizens, and then subjecting themselves, and that unpopular proposition, to what argues for careful handling when we address the question of how best to redistribute the burden of defending a conglomeration of democracies.

This becomes all the more important since Americans, who have long since rid themselves of military conscription, tell the West Germans that, by some arbitrary number, they are not doing their fair share. It's the distinction, you might even say, that NATO is all about.

©1986 The Washington Post Co. All rights reserved.



**THE CHARACTER FACTORY** Baden-Powell and the Origins of the Boy Scout Movement. By Michael Rosenthal. Pantheon. 336pp. \$22.95.

"And then, who should I see, wandering along the Soho thoroughfare, but the Kid-From-Outer Space, who doesn't know that is his name, I haven't told him so. This kid, who is extremely nice and that, and who I know from school days and even from the Baden-Powell contraption, belongs entirely to the Other World. . . What knot would you use, I said, coming up beside him, and speaking from the corner of the mouth into his ear, to tie two ropes of unequal thickness, supposing you had two such ropes, and wanted to join the pair of them together?" "Oh, ho, it's you, boy Moughti," said this Outer-Space creation. . .

— From "Absolute Beginners," by Colin MacInnes

AT ANY TIME in the last two generations, the response of the average British youth to any mention of the scout movement would have been similarly flippant (though it's an unusually nice coincidence to find MacInnes's narrator referring to Rosenthal's "factory" as a "contraption"). Since the war, Baden-Powell's short-trousered legions have been a matter *pour rire*, their Kipling-esque lore and their interest in woodcraft at hopeless odds with the wised-up aspirations of "modern" youth. Meanwhile, a staple of the English Sunday became the revelation, in the less expensive tabloid newspapers, of yet another scoutmaster who was not as other men. ("He turned back to the pages of the *News of the World* and said 'Another naughty scoutmaster.'") Thus Sebastian Flyte to Charles Ryder on a drowsy day at Brideshead Castle.

But as Michael Rosenthal shows in this diverting and meticulous book, there was a time when Baden-Powell (or "B-P") was more famous, and arguably more influential, than any political party leader. He was a born organizer and propagandist, with a tremendous flair for publicity. And he was able to provide a worried imperial authority with precisely what it needed most — moral reassurance. Though it was led by the upper- and upper-middle class, his movement had a very strong cross-class appeal. George Orwell wrote with despair of the failure of the English left to evolve anything with comparable *esprit de corps*. Slum children who had never seen the countryside were taken into an adventurous outdoor brotherhood, warned against smoking, given good character-references for employers, weaned off petty crime — filled to the brim with jingoism.

You may think that you know about

Baden-Powell and his "old fashioned" ideas about "lesser breeds without the law." But Michael Rosenthal has unearthed an astounding trove of detail. I had not appreciated, for example, the extent of B-P's antipathy towards Jews. He even drew Streicher-type cartoons for the Boy Scout paper, and mixed anti-Semitism into the rich compost of his general theory of eugenics. The white races were born to rule, the colored races understood only the language of force, and there was a continual necessity to guard against mongrelization

and the ideas of internationalism. Together with men like Rider Haggard and Sir William Evans-Gordon, B-P took part in quite frightening things like the Commission on Youth and the Race, which urged purity of stock and constant state of military readiness. It's not surprising, then, to find that Baden-Powell was quite captivated by fascism in the 1930s. As he wrote: "Dictators in Germany and Italy have done wonders in resuscitating their peoples to stand as nations. They have recognised that

mere scholastic education is not enough for building up a manhood at once efficient, healthy and patriotic — i.e., a strong nation. Mussolini told me he had found Italians a divided people and that the only way to make them a united whole was to get hold of the youth, from 8 years old to 22. . ."

Baden-Powell was not ashamed to claim that the Hitler Youth, too, was founded on Boy Scout principles. When asked to protest at the incarceration of a German youth leader in a concentration camp, B-P replied, "The man whom you quoted as sent to prison . . . was sent there, not for homosexual tendencies, but for homosexual tendencies!"

Homosexual tendencies, eh? Years of unkind scoutmaster jokes have made me wary of this subject, but Rosenthal's book is both fair-minded and revealing on the point. Baden-Powell sacrificed the world of women to his military ambitions, and only married late in life to please his mother. His most emotional relationship was with a well-made youth named Kenneth McLaren, who served in the 13th Hussars and was known always as "The Boy." When "The Boy" was wounded and captured by the Boers during the siege of Mafeking, Baden-Powell went into a paroxysm that would not have disgraced Walt Whitman or Wilfred Owen. He was all for dashing into the Boer lines himself, but had to be content with sending creature comforts under a flag of truce. "The Boy" later became a co-founder of the movement which in some questionably subliminal sense bears his name. I have always felt a little queasy when elderly militaristic politicians refer sabbily to soldiers as "Our Boys," and Rosenthal has amply confirmed me in this queasiness.

It would have been easy enough to write a sniggering revisionist book about B-P, from the standpoint of what we are pleased to call a more enlightened age. Rosenthal has resisted (I almost wrote "manfully") this temptation. He writes with an historian's sense of the context, and shows the utility of scout ideology to an Empire increasingly beset with self-doubt. There was, amid all the bogus and hateful stuff about blood and soil, a certain idea of chivalry in "the Baden-Powell contraption." Even as I turned these pages in occasional horror, I could recall the precepts of *The Jungle Book* and the injunction to do a good deed every day (not to mention the tyrannical and ruinous war on the baser self that was waged through the campaign against self-abuse). As for the question about which knot to use in uniting ropes of different thicknesses, I can still do that in my sleep. It's a cinch, which is to say a sheepshank.

Christopher Hitchens is a columnist for *The Nation*, *The Spectator*, and *The Times Literary Supplement*.



Portrait of the founder at the opening of Baden-Powell House in London, 1961.

## Scout's Honor

By Christopher Hitchens

## The Reality Of The New Nicaraguans

Continued from page 17

said the Rev. Uriel Reyes, spokesman for the Menagua archdiocese. But after urging parents in May 1985 to keep an eye on their children's education, Christian School Parents' Association head Sofonias Cisneros was dragged from his office by young turbas, beaten and stripped naked to walk home.

Now each school has semi-resident inspectors who visit classes and make sure the Sandinista curriculum is followed, Reyes said, although Catholic schools may offer two hours a week of religious instruction outside of regular classes.

Sandinista Youth director Hurtado said there is no contradiction in the New Nicaraguans who like baseball and wear jeans to the disco. "We can't have extraterrestrial beings, but people of flesh and blood who love and cut and play," he said. "We are idealistic, but we have a long way to go yet. . . The New Man is a goal we will not achieve in seven years nor in seven years more, but over a lifetime."

© 1986 The Washington Post Co. All rights reserved.

George F. Will

NEWSPAPERS drop by our homes every day, generally at breakfast, when anything other than a velvety voice is jarring. Newspapers are, however, by their natures, brusque and businesslike and, given the nature of the world they report, bruising to our spirits. But newspapers should not be severely free of ornaments that improve the scenery of life. One such was Red Smith, the subject of a new biography by Ira Berkow.

What are we missing, we who miss that sports columnist whenever we open a newspaper? This, for example: "Society Kid Hogan was hurrying through the Illinois Central pedestrian tunnel under Michigan Avenue on June 9, 1930, when a man in the crowd put a gun to the head of Jake Lingle, a grafting crime reporter, and it went boom."

"The Kid kept right on walking. 'Why?' the Law asked him later. 'The last train was leaving for the racetrack,' he said reasonably. 'Did you see the killers,' they asked."

"Sure." "Could you identify him?" "The Kid drew a hand across the knot in his flashy necktie."

"Only up to here," he said. "That could have been written by Damon Runyon, or Mark Twain. It

## Stylist Of The Sports Page

could only have been written by an American, marinated in this nation's distinctive broad-brush drollery. Smith heard Americanisms spoken on the playground, where he worked, as when he asked Pepper Martin how he learned to run so well: "Well, sir, I grew up in Oklahoma and once you start running out there, there ain't nothing to stop you." When Smith asked Early Wynn, a roughneck pitcher, if he ever deliberately threw at a batter's head, Wynn mentioned a .230 hitter who cut open Wynn's chin with a line drive: "The pitcher's mound is my office and I don't like office messes up with a lot of blood."

Linton to such talk long enough and the dry tang will seep into your style as it did into Smith's. He explained that Paul Wanner's eyesight was so bad when he was hitting about 350 for the Pirates, he could not read from the bench the advertisements on the outfield fences. Smith said Wanner gave the matter no thought, "for in his philosophy fences were targets, not literature."

On a throne at the center of a sense of humor sits a capacity for irony. All wit rests on a cheerful awareness of life's incongruities. It is a gentling awareness, and no politician without it should be allowed near power. Smith had it

but was interested in laughter, not power. He was an American P.G. Wodehouse. Wodehouse, like Smith, was a soufflé chef of light literature. His prose was flawless and he had an almost pristine absence of solemnity in the employment of it. Smith, unlike Wodehouse, was capable of seriousness, even anger. But not for long.

Berkow's book is a study of craftsmanship, always a commodity in short supply. A biography of a writer succeeds if it sends readers scurrying off to the writer's books. Even people utterly uninterested in sports should sample Smith. Do you care about rodeos? Neither do I. But I believe that any good use of the English language is good for the soul, and that this opening sentence of a Smith column should be put in front of all fledgling writers:

"C. E. Feeke Tooko, born in Redfield, South Dakota, fifty-nine years ago but dragged up on a homestead outside Ekakaka, Montana, was having the very hell of a time with the showy palomino between his knees, but he wore a grin that lit up the corners of Oklahoma City's Fairgrounds Arena."

Smith, says Berkow, suited America's mood in the late 1940s, when the nation wanted to catch

up on missed fun. Smith's syndicated column prospered then. Smith, says Berkow, wrote the way Smith said Pete Rose plays baseball, with "an almost lascivious enthusiasm." The columns about Society Kid Hogan and C. E. Feeke Tooko were obituaries and were included in a book ("To Absent Friends") composed entirely of farrowels. Melancholy reading? Hardly.

"Bill Alexander (coach at Georgia Tech) was a gallant gentleman and an intractable fighter for the football player's inalienable right to sign checks with an X. If a good defensive tackle wished to carry a book under his arm when he stroled the campus, Bill did not offer serious objections, although he disliked ostentation. He was, however, unalterably opposed to eyestrain."

Journalism is generally perishable stuff, but if you can find Smith's books, you will constantly bump into sentences that begin like this: "Three winters ago purity, like a worm in the bud, was making threads into college football. . . I never met Smith, who died in 1982, but I imagine he wrote that sentence about purity, just as I laughed when I read it 24 years later. To live on, as Smith does, in transmitted laughter is a tolerable approximation of immortality."

THE GUARDIAN, August 24, 1986

THE GUARDIAN, August 24, 1986

## Up hill, down dale, and worlds apart

By Geoffrey Taylor

THE Yorkshire Dales do not form the tidy geographical unit which the boundaries of the National Park superficially impose on them. On the map they can be made to look like a self-contained stretch of the Pennines. Indeed geologically, I am told, they are, with the predominant rocks, limestone, sandstone, and millstone grit, alternating with each other to produce landscapes which, though different in every dale, have a family resemblance.

On a visit it is different. Wensleydale, Swaledale, Dentdale — they all look equally accessible by car. In two or three days it is possible to cover the whole area. On foot there are paths and drovers' roads which criss-cross the dales and give them a unified appearance. But living here puts them in a quite different perspective. At least it does today. It is probable that in former epochs the economics dictated closer links between the dales.

There were obvious differences of terrain and agriculture between this area and, say, the Vale of York to the east. The monasteries and noble houses like the Clifford, owned large tracts of ground and imposed similarities between one dale and another. But although landlords like the Devonshires survive, the pattern of communication is different.

The dale where I live branches off from Upper Wharfedale, supplying its own tributary to the Wharfe itself, and thence to the Ouse and the Humber. Upper Wharfedale, from Grassington to Kettlewell and up to Buckden, is referred to locally as "the other dale." The village of Hubberholme, where J. B. Priestley's ashes were recently buried and which he oddly described as "one of the smallest and pleasantest places in the world", is the last of any size before you start the steep climb out of Wharfedale, and over the top into Hawes and Wensleydale. In a straight line it is little over three miles from Hailton Gill, the village at the top of Hubberholme, and indeed the parson on horseback used to conduct one service in each church on a Sunday. By road it is 15 miles.

Gamekeepers, farmers gathering sheep, and energetic walkers see both dales at the same time. The rest of us tend to gaze upwards towards the groen, brown and grey skyline separating them. Every autumn the farmers will congregate at Hawes, at the head of Wensleydale, for the tup (ram)



Linton Dale — picture by Denis Thorpe.

sales, when tups will change hands for several thousand pounds, and from August to late October the keepers will visit one another's grouse shoots. Beyond that there is little intercourse between the dales.

I have been to Wensleydale three times but to Swaledale and Dentdale, say, not at all in the past seven years. I sometimes go to Ribblesdale to shop at Settle, a genuine little town 13 miles away from a winding road past Pen Y Ghent hill, usually closed for much of the winter. But that is about the limit of local travel.

Nowadays the gamekeepers and the farmers have become fewer and the rest of us more. On a gloomy view, that process is bound to continue. Of the 22 houses in the village, four are still working farms, though within recent memory there are seven. The resident population is 45. When Baines published his register of Yorkshire in 1822, it was 102, and in addition to farmers they included three gentlemen, a blacksmith, a grocer, a cabinet-maker, and a shoemaker.

Today, five of the houses are holiday homes, one is in part-time occupation, and the demographic change, as it is euphemistically called, has brought into the village at least six households which earn their living outside the dale. They include an Oxford don and two other university professors, two company directors and me.

The last vestiges of a grocer's shop disappeared a month ago when my wife, who runs the post

office, found that the "sell-by" dates imposed by the EEC were producing a net loss as well as an abominable clutter in the cottage, and gave up that side of the business. There are now no food shops within ten miles.

In spite of all this, the dale retains its identity and the village hall, newly rebuilt, is in constant use. You can judge a lot by the newspapers people read. Occasionally when the regular man is off, I collect them from ten miles away for local distribution. About 90 per cent of the dale takes the Yorkshire Post, with three or four Guardians, two or three Telegraphs, and one Daily Mail. There may be the odd Sun, but not many other tabloids. Everyone takes and relies on the weekly Craven Herald.

As I write, it is clipping time. Having been dosed (pronounced dozed) against their various infections, the sheep are being fleeced: beautiful fleeces, some of them. The dale, the surrounding hills, and the conversation are all dominated by sheep; either Dalebred or Swaledales but increasingly a cross-breed with Suffolks which produces a fatter lamb.

An economist would go into the sheep market more closely. None of the farmers could afford to live here without the upland sheep subsidy. It is that, and that alone I think, which keeps the dales in occupation by the people who really belong here and ensures that the entire population is not

made up of computer programmers, university lecturers and journalists. If the EEC has put an end to our grocery trade, it has maintained the outward appearance of the dales, for without its solitude for hill farmers it must be doubtful whether the sheep would get by on market forces alone.

Competition is already increasing sharply as lowland farmers, sensing no future in cereals, change to the sheep which they can fatten far more profitably than on these sparse pastures.

But we are safe for a decade or two, and as long as national parks policy remains as it is, the dales will remain open and largely empty for visitors to enjoy. That is what their rugged landscapes, and their rich and varied limestone flora, demand I said flora because it is hard to imagine much unusual fauna settling here. The RAF uses this dale for practice runs with its fighter-interceptors, travelling at 500 miles an hour and 200 feet. It is not the environment to which the golden eagle, which gave its name to Arnccliffe, is ever likely to return. Peregrines, yes; they nest on a rock face down the dale. Most other species are scared off. So, sometimes are the sheep, and so am I.

The deepest cause for regret is that the dales have become self-conscious. Publicity officers are springing up in every town and district and holiday cottage rental — I almost said racket — is enjoying a boom. The ironmonger

is giving way to the antique shop and the draper to the boutique. Grassington is crowded out with coachloads and in Kettlewell, one main centre of the caving for which the area is famous and occasionally notorious, all the houses are full in summer and more than half empty in winter.

One should not overlook, though, the pleasures of winter up here. June, when it is fine, is probably incomparable anywhere in England. High summer is still fresh and the serious walker can enjoy fine tracts of open country. But it is busy, even in a tiny place like this, if you keep a post office and shop and have to ration out the time to visiting friends from far away. The glorious silence which descends from October to March, with snow on the tops for a lot of the time and in the dale itself for several weeks, is the time to enjoy.

With scarcely an outside light to distract from it the Milky Way in its myriad stars is what it has been since man began to marvel at it. The boutique owners have gone to the south of France, the Craven Herald is full of pantomimes and performances of the Messiah. The cattle are inside. The farmers repair gaps in their walls and take sheep fodder up the fells. But there isn't all that much daylight, and the pub has a longer dominoes night. For those with the liberty it is time to light the fire, and when the snow has been shovelled away in the morning you never know, you may have a bit of peace.

## Olga writes to the papers

By Martin Walker in Moscow

raincoat, bought quite openly at a Moscow department store, and was delighted with its chic cut and style. Then she sent it to be cleaned. Disaster. It needed a special dry-cleaning process, and the Moscow dry cleaners had none of the required chemicals.

This time she wrote to Rabochnitsa, a magazine which translates as Working Woman. "It is ridiculous," she began, "that our ministry of foreign trade should pay the Finns for clothes we cannot clean. Either we should not buy them at all, or we should buy the chemicals to clean them at the same time."

This time she received a duplicated letter, which had obviously been sent out to hundreds of other complainants, from the Moscow trade department which had been responsible for selling the coats. It was apologetic in tone, and said that arrangements had been made with the ministry of foreign trade to buy not only Finnish dry-

cleaning chemicals, but also some Finnish dry-cleaning machines that would solve the problem of the disappointed purchasers.

This, Olga dismissed as a *skoro budit* — brush-off. *Skoro budit* means "it will happen soon," and is the Russian equivalent of the English "soon."

But her faith in the letters system is unshaken, and her next one was a humdinger.

"We can buy German-made coats of our good Russian fur in our shops for 12,000 rubles. It takes me over five years to earn that much money and I cannot afford it, but it is good that people who can afford it should be able to make such a purchase. But if our trading department is imaginative enough to provide such luxuries, why cannot they provide any of our shops with a decent Soviet-made deodorant selling for two rubles, which is what women really need."

She sat back to await results, sure that the shelves of GUM would soon overflow with deodorant, and that she might even be escorted round by a pleasant young man from the ministry of light industry.

Instead, she received a personal letter from the head of the letters department at Rabochnitsa. It read, in full: "Thank you for your letter, which will help us in our efforts to wage our joint campaign against shortages."

It seems the letters pages of the newspapers, the much vaunted safety-valve of the Soviet system, are being clogged with too many complaints. Party officials are already talking openly of the new wave of criticisms unleashed by Gorbachev having gone too far; that people are complaining about things that enterprising managers are spending far too much of their time dealing with press inquiries into letters complaining that the manager is arro-

gant and resists constructive criticism.

The letters department of Moskovskaya Pravda, for example, used to receive about 150 letters a day. This time last year, the figure was up to 300, and now it approaches 500 a day. They have to take on part-time worker-correspondents to help cope with the flood.

Reporters at other newspapers say it is happening there too, and the letters department of the central committee has also noted a sharper rise in its volume of mail from the public. Pravda wearily reported recently that not a day went past without its office in Alma-Ata getting written complaints about corruption, bad food supplies and the like.

At one level, this means more disappointments for Olga and her fellow letter-writers, and, perhaps, the disillusion of their faith that the system can be responsive. At another level, and more ominous, we are seeing the first signs of the official backlash against the Gorbachev reforms. Incidentally, not one of Olga's letters was ever printed.



## Orchids in the wild

By Ralph Whitlock

WHEN in my teens I developed an absorbing interest in natural history I subjected the fields and woods, streams and downs, around my home, to intensive exploration, learning the names of the birds, insects, and flowers that shared this enchanting world with me and noting just where they were to be found.

In those days, when half of England was derelict, I could have led you to the nests of stone curlews and curlew huns, or to where, on sunny summer afternoons, marbled white and chalkhill blue butterflies rose in clouds from the downland herbage. Nearby were colonies of carline thistles, nestling among the harebells, and those tiny downland flowers rejoicing in the imaginative names of eyebright, aquilegia, fairy floss and lady's finger, while a mile or two distant, in a dense wood which hid the ruins of a mediaeval priory, lived a persistent group of specimens of the very rare herb Paris.

One of my treasured discoveries, kept secret from most of my contemporaries, was a small colony of bee orchids. In late June or early July, I could be certain of finding just two or three of them in this one spot. I admired the form and beauty of this lovely little flower, so reminiscent of a fat brown bee extracting nectar from a pink cruciferous blossom, but of course, the excitement lay chiefly in discovering such a rarity. Alas, no one will ever again see that colony, for many years ago the plough claimed its site, which now grows wheat instead of orchids.

Returning to my native haunts earlier this year, I unexpectedly renewed my interest in orchids. My morning woodland walks took me along a path where in May I spotted the unfolding leaves of the not uncommon twayblade orchid. Experience has taught me that orchids apparently thrive in each other's company; when we find one species it is worth looking round for another. In this instance, it wasn't long before I found butterfly orchids, both greater and lesser. I was hooked on orchid-hunting again.

It may seem a strange pursuit in temperate England. In popular esteem orchids are exotic flowers, commanding exotic prices in the best florists. We can cultivate them in heated greenhouses or over in warm, airy rooms, but the cheapest plants cost from £10 upwards, and to see them in their natural surroundings we need to visit a tropical rain-forest or its simulation in a humid glasshouse in a botanical garden. If we think that way, it may come as a surprise that about fifty different kinds of orchid flourish wild in the British Isles. Some of the handsomest are quite common, but most are rare, their scarcity giving

an added zest to orchid-hunting. Orchids take such a long time to become established that the destruction of their habitats by plough or some other agency is tragic. The twayblade orchid plant is fifteen years or so old before it sends up its first flower stalk; the burnt orchid is almost as old before it produces its first leaves. An enterprising friend once sprinkled some seeds of the bee orchid in a suitable spot, and the first flowers appeared seven years later.

The seeds of orchids are so tiny that they have little space for food reserves. Instead of relying on such reserves the seedling orchid draws its nourishment from certain fungi which grow partly inside and partly outside the orchid roots. The fungi extract nutrients from decaying vegetable matter in the soil, and the orchid roots requisition a share of them.

A rather extreme case is that of the birds-nest orchid, of which I have found several small colonies this summer. The roots, from which it derives its name, are like a ball of worms that I have sometimes seen fishermen use for catching eels. They extract nourishment, through their associated fungus, from the humus formed by rotting leaves under shady trees. The plant never manufactures any chlorophyll, and so the flower stalk and flowers themselves are entirely brown. Not particularly beautiful but a great find.

The British orchids are widely distributed and are found in almost every type of habitat. Some live in the shade of deep woods, even a few in the pinewoods of Scotland; some are found in bogs and marshes; some on sandy heaths. Most, however, prefer chalk and limestone soils; the best places to look for orchids in general being (a) chalk downs and (b) beechwoods on chalk or limestone.

Success apparently breeds success in orchid-hunting. Having duly recorded solitary butterfly and birds-nest orchids I suddenly came across assemblages of them — butterfly orchids by the score.

Then I remembered a hillside where I used to find orchids fifty years ago. It was too steep for ploughing, so perhaps the orchids still survived. I made the pilgrimage and was rewarded by the sight of an acre or so of chalk downland studded almost as thickly with orchids as a meadow with buttercups. Hundreds of them. Most were the erect and beautifully-scented fragrant orchids but there was also a good sprinkling of spotted orchids and pyramidal orchids.

And then, most unexpected of all, several colonies of bee orchids. I counted fifteen flower-spikes and went home vastly content. Despite plough, sprays, people and all the other hazards of the 1980s, orchids still manage to flourish in England.

## A spiritual tug of war

THEATRE by Michael Billington

I EMERGED from Andrzej Wajda's production of *Crime and Punishment* (which launched the Edinburgh Festival's admirable World Theatre season) with aching bottom and exhilarated spirit. Nearly three hours on the wooden benches of St Bride's Centre in Orwell Terrace is tough going, but the acting in this Story Theatre of Krakow production is so magnificent you forget the mortification of the flesh.

Wajda's much-travelled production (which last week had its 160th performance) is diametrically different to Lyubimov's famous version of Dostoevsky's great thriller. Lyubimov tried to encompass the whole story; Wajda focuses on the cat and mouse confrontations of the killer Raskolnikov and the magistrate Porfiry.

Lyubimov worked through recurring Expressionist images: Wajda's style is closer to what

John Jones calls the "apocalyptic naturalism" of the novel. Lyubimov's moral purpose was to show "that evil cannot be called good." Wajda's version is more compassionate to the would-be Napoleonic murderer and highlights the strange spiritual kinship between him and his convulsive interrogator.

The first thing to hit you is the mouldering detail of Krystyna Zachwatowicz's design — a precise evocation of the novel's "stinking Petersburg".

The audience of 100 is separated from the actors by a wooden rail. Behind that are crumbling, glass-panelled frames, claustrophobic rooms, rusting armchairs, chipped lamps, even glasses with that peculiar yellow liquid issuing from the city's noxious water supply. Dostoevsky absented himself from the city in 1866 when writing the book to avoid "false inspiration". He created from the imagination

a St Petersburg of dirt, heat, bile, and decay; which is what you see on stage with the addition of a glass case containing the murdered moneylender's effects like exhibits in a murder trial. But the fascination of this production lies in the emotional interdependence of the two protagonists. Jerzy Radziwiłowicz (who played the lead in Wajda's *Man of Iron* and *Man of Marble*) is a brilliant Raskolnikov. He conveys the point, even to non-Polish speakers, that the character's punishment lies in his mental torment. He looks exactly right from the rimless specs and unruly hair down to the thick-soled squeaking boots with their white string laces.

He also communicates the murderer's hunger for spiritual redemption. When he visits the prostitute Sonia his hand quivers over her bible like some vast deal with prehensile fingers and then he beats his temples with it as if trying to drive the Lazarus story into his brain. This Raskolnikov's torment lies within; and when he confesses his crime his body is filled with exhausted relief.

But the Porfiry of Jerzy Stuh (another famous Polish film actor) is equally remarkable. What he gets across is the man's double nature. On the one hand, he is the obsessive sleuth, always watching, listening, smoking and neatly cutting out Raskolnikov's article on crime before putting it in the exhibit case.

But there is something dangerous about him which suggests that to trap a murderer one has first to understand him. Stuh periodically emits a choking, mirthless laugh in which his bull-frog eyes bulge from their sockets, and when he accuses Raskolnikov of delirium his own body shudders and judders as if he too is possessed by a demon. I called the interrogation a cat and mouse game; but the revelation of this production is that you cannot always tell which is the cat and which the mouse.

Wajda's production is not the whole book: what it gives us is a breathtaking spiritual contest played out in peeling rooms. It also has a compelling moral neutrality suggesting that the dividing line between the magistrate who brutally kicks a prisoner who falsely confesses and the murderer who craves divine forgiveness is dangerously thin. It is less physically dynamic than Lyubimov's production but equally enthralling; and, like that, it proves the key to adaptation lies in expressing a particular vision of a novel rather than in simply ironing out its incidents.

## The best in town

I HAD almost forgotten musicals could be witty. Today too many of them are weighed down by hi-tech sets and an inflated sense of their own importance when they are really like very bad 19th century operas. But *Wonder Town*, which sails into the Queen's from the Palace, Watford, is a spirit-lifting joy from 1963 that is about real people rather than a display of light engineering and that both vocally and musically is instinct with ironic humour. It is much the best musical in London.

Part of its secret is that it is based on a cooperative alliance of first rate talents. Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorov adapted the book from their play. My Sister Eileen, about two Ohio sisters who besieged New York from their Greenwich Village basement. (The show is set in 1936 when Christopher Street was still a heterogeneous community).

Betty Comden and Adolph Green provide lyrics that advance plot and define character while retaining their crispness. Pass The Football harpoons beautifully the way athletic prowess leads to collegiate stardom while leaving its own stranded in afterlife. And Leonard Bernstein's score encompasses popular jazz, romantic lament, a conga, and with its wry dissonance and sudden tempo changes, anticipates West Side Story.

But it is the bright Manhattan wit that is the show's most distinctive quality. It plays lightly over almost all the numbers: Conversa-

tion Piece is a classic account of a strangled dinner party where Ruth, the blue stock heroine, weighs in vivaciously with remarks like "I was re-reading Moby Dick the other day," and Darling Eileen, set in a New York Precinct House, is an Irish jig for sundry cops who steadfastly refuse to believe that a girl with that name isn't from the old country.

But the evening's highlight is the first act climax where Ruth bravely tries to interview a posse of Brazilian matelots about major issues while they want nothing more than to conga: at this point, the production could use a few more bodies but the number both releases Ruth's inhibitions and fills the stage with Latin American rhythms.

It's a touch too hard to accept Maureen Lipman as a sex-starved wallflower but her Ruth has the slight titchiness of the aspiring writer and overlooked sister while her comic timing is impeccable: not least when she acts out her sub-Hemingway safari story while a magazine editor tries to read it. Emily Morgan as sister Eileen is all corn-haired country girl oneness and there is good support from Nicolas Colicos (whom I last saw in a Canadian Roberto) as a martooned athletic hulk, and from Roy Lommen as the love-struck editor.

Martin Connor's production also captures both the urban wit and the ironic lyricism of a musical that is the best the town has seen since the National's revival of *Guys and Dolls*.

## Goo inside the apple pie

CINEMA by Derek Malcolm

JOHN HUGHES wrote and directed *The Breakfast Club*, the best and most intelligent teen movie of last year. He's now written but not directed *Pretty In Pink*, which is the most successful of the genre so far this year. If it is also the best, however, we've just about reached the nadir.

The intelligence that has gone into it is mostly a matter of cosmetics. The film looks like nothing so much as a very shrewd compendium of what the market requires. *Pretty In Pink* is a teenage version of those wrong side of the tracks romances of some 30 years ago, impeccably dressed in mid-eighties clobber.

The girl (Molly Ringwald) lives with her father (Harry Dean Stanton) in a simple bungalow on the poorer side of town, mother having deserted. But she's bright and goes

to a good school, expecting a scholarship to college. She's also pretty even when she's not in pink — though her habit of keeping her mouth half open when not speaking would seem likely to attract as many flies as men.

The boy who loves her most is fellow Zoid Duckie (Jon Cryer) who talks smart but acts dumb. The one who lusts after her most is Steff (James Spader) who is handsome, rich, and totally unused to a girl saying no. But she fancies Blane (Andrew McCarthy) who eyes her like a yuppie puppy on heat. But he's a gent and doesn't do anything.

Steff knows one thing. If he can't have "the slag", Blane won't. So he mocks away merrily causing Blane pain as the "Richies" reject the Zoid. Back home, Harry Dean, of

the extremely well lived-in face and the emblematic taciturnity that encourages cults, tells her: "You like him. He likes you. Take the heat. It's worth it." Thus are life's grittier problems boiled down into movie philosophy. And we ask the inevitable question — who's going to take her to the Senior Prom?

Hughes and Howard Deutch, the director, embroider, this passion fruit-tale with every icon of the under-21 set they can muster, from spots to in-phrases, rave-in music to pop autisms. They're really on the ball. But crisp as the crust, the inside of the pie remains goo, obstinately like junk-food. *Pretty In Pink* is manipulative, dream fodder, par excellence, and about as much like real life as Coltra, though without the realistic blood.

NO COMPOSER pursues his individual visions so relentlessly as Harrison Birtwistle. His three operas — defying conventional rules, standing firm on laws of their own — may each have you initially resisting, but the power of the rugged stage manners refuses to be ignored and has a way of catching up with you not just at the time but in hours and days following.

What he presents are elemental experiences. Yan Tan Tethera, now given its first staging by David Freeman's Opera Factory as part of Summerstage, like its predecessors, *Punch and Judy* and the *Mask of Orpheus*, is a slow-moving obsessive ritual. Its 90-minute span in one act may stretch concentration to the limit, maddening you with its stylised repetitions, but like its predecessor it makes its point as tellingly as a Greek drama.

Where *Punch* based its rituals on nursery story and rhyme, and *Orpheus* developed a world of associations from Greek myth, telling and retelling, Yan Tan Tethera roots itself in a Wiltshire folk tale. It is a simple story of two shepherds, Alan from the North who against the odds prospers, and Caleb on home ground resenting the intruder, calling in aid the Devil (seen as an elusive pipper or the Bad 'Un). Alan is spirited away along with his twins. His wife Hannah resists Caleb's advances, finally wins the return of Alan and her children along with two urchins whom Caleb had tried to palm off on her.

Birtwistle's librettist, Tony Harrison, also a northerner, has honed down words and characterisation to a dangerous degree, but the disconcerting baldness is as much an essential part of the composer's vision as the comparably stylised librettos of *Punch* and *Orpheus*.

The title itself, Yan Tan Tethera, is an incantation based on the counting of sheep, old northern words for one, two, three. In the opera even the sheep themselves get in on the act, counting away so purposefully they might be intent on sending you to sleep. Though he strains you, Birtwistle never begins to do that and the wonder of the steady flow over so much of the 90 minutes is that it intensifies all the more the rare passages of action.

Though the pace is slow, there are few moments of total stillness. My first reaction was to wish there were more, when the orchestra (wind quintet, horn, string septet, harp and percussion) keeps a gently jangling commentary that relates disconcertingly little to the



Omar Ebrahim as Alan.

## A new challenge by Birtwistle

OPERA by Edward Greenfield

you to sleep. Though he strains you, Birtwistle never begins to do that and the wonder of the steady flow over so much of the 90 minutes is that it intensifies all the more the rare passages of action.

Though the pace is slow, there are few moments of total stillness. My first reaction was to wish there were more, when the orchestra (wind quintet, horn, string septet, harp and percussion) keeps a gently jangling commentary that relates disconcertingly little to the

three, often rock-like, vocal lines above it.

Though by a fluke of production Yan Tan Tethera follows so closely on the heels of the *Mask of Orpheus* at the English National Opera, its concept and completion is much more recent. On the face of it, Birtwistle has softened his idiom a degree further. There are moments of simple, Britten-like poetry — as when the call of the Piper is heard or the false urchins gambol about, singing in piping treble "we will be seven tomorrow"

three, often rock-like, vocal lines above it.

Though by a fluke of production Yan Tan Tethera follows so closely on the heels of the *Mask of Orpheus* at the English National Opera, its concept and completion is much more recent. On the face of it, Birtwistle has softened his idiom a degree further. There are moments of simple, Britten-like poetry — as when the call of the Piper is heard or the false urchins gambol about, singing in piping treble "we will be seven tomorrow"

## All the same, it works

By Edward Greenfield

THE SCENE is the beach at Costi-on-Sea with Don Alfonso making sand-castles among the potted palms. As the overture finishes, a gaggle of young swimmers comes rushing in, scattering any late-comers. From then on David Freeman's production for Opera Factory of Mozart's sublimely farcical comedy does its updating with sharp and often very funny ingenuity, until with a sting in the tail it sets an uncomfortable question-mark over the pairing of the lovers: these are real people waking up.

It would take a curmudgeon to object to such treatment for *Così fan tutte*. Freeman rejects the charge that it is a "highly artificial" piece but rather a disguise for freedom and fun of the beach — are given "the chance to become somebody else." With a racy new translation by Anne Ridley he actually clarifies motivation, making the impossible switches and non-recognitions of Da Ponte's plot more, not less, probable when set in 1986.

So Fiordiligi is a chain-smoker,

looking intense behind the heavy glasses she keeps putting on, contrasting with her easier-going sister Despina, less a servant than an au pair, instructs her mistress after putting on a fright wig and a see-through skirt, and makes her official disguises far more convincing than usual, first as a frump of a woman doctor administering electro-therapy later as a seedy old lawyer.

As for the men, they have their call-up for paratroop service, and promptly return as wealthy Arabs, almost unrecognisable behind beards, head-dresses and dark glasses. Freeman has fun in Act 1, leaving the two pairs as they were before the departure, with Ferrando still partnering Dorabella and Guglielmo with Fiordiligi.

Musically it works well too. This is the first of the new South Bank Opera's attempts to exploit the Queen Elizabeth Hall for opera as music-theatre, and is encouraging. The players of the London Sinfonietta, crisply directed by Paul Daniel, sit down the right-hand strip of the bare full-width stage. That may bring an awkward balance in some parts of the hall, but was excellent where I was, with modest strings balancing the wind well enough, but allowing voices of less than Covent Garden grandeur to shine through.

Marie Angel as Fiordiligi with her pained over-responsibility provided a central focus. After sitting under the note too much at the start, she brought the necessary command to "Come scoglio" (strong as granite) and even more to "Per pietà." Bright, clean projection equally marked the singing both of the impetuous Dorabella of Christine Botes and the provocative Despina of Janis Kelly.

Nigel Robson, strained by the high tessitura of Ferrando's two big arias, sang otherwise with impeccable sweetness, and provided in his maturity a pointed contrast with the gangling young Guglielmo of Geoffrey Dolton, fresh and light of voice.

## Senior Field Officer Mozambique

CUSO, Canada's largest non-government organization involved in international development, is seeking a person of exceptional maturity to serve as the Senior Field Staff Officer in Mozambique. Candidates should have a strong grasp of development issues in Southern Africa and proven skills in development programming, involving both technical assistance and project funding. Fluency in English and Portuguese is essential.

### SALARY:

Canadian \$31,217 per annum plus a good fringe benefits package.

### STARTING DATE IN THE FIELD:

October 1988.

Interested applicants should submit a current résumé, the names and addresses of three references, and a statement of their own ideas on development issues in Mozambique. This should include information on how they see themselves contributing to development work in this position in light of their own experience. Applications should be forwarded to: CUSO Personnel Services, 135 Rideau Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. K1N 9K7 (Tel. (613) 683-1242 extension 211 or Telex 063-4706) by September 19, 1988.



## SOMETHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT. THE TEARCRAFT MAIL ORDER GIFT SERVICE

Send gifts home to the UK by mail without international postage, but with your own personal message.

THIRD WORLD CRAFTS Send for our full colour catalogue and you'll be delighted by our range of craft products and other gift items, many of them handmade by craftworkers in small-scale producer groups in the Third World.

PERSONALISED GIFTS With each catalogue comes a FREE packet of gift tags. You simply decide what you want to send and to whom. (We can only send to people resident in the British Isles). Fill in the order form, write your personalised message on the gift tags and send them to us with payment.

SAVE ON INTERNATIONAL POSTAGE Back in Britain, we'll wrap your presents, attach your gift tag and send them to the people you have specified.

YEAR ROUND SERVICE TEARCRAFT is launching this scheme for Christmas '86, but the service will be available all year round for birthdays and anniversaries.

AID AND DEVELOPMENT TEARCRAFT is the leading mail order gift service working around the world based aid and development agency working around the world with fellow Christians to provide physical and spiritual help to people in need.

TEAR FUND supports producer groups among the poorest of communities around the world, giving them the opportunity for gainful employment and a market abroad.

TEAR FUND also commissions its own products designed in Britain, proceeds from which go to support craftworkers in the Third World.

OVER 500 GIFT IDEAS Send now for your FREE Tearcraft catalogue and gift tags to: TEARCRAFT, 100 Church Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8QE.

TEARCRAFT Catalogue 1986/87

I am interested in the Tearcraft Mail Order Gift Service. Please send me, free of charge, the Tearcraft Catalogue and a set of gift tags.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

## DIRECTOR, NEPAL ActionAid

ActionAid, an international rural development agency with programmes in nine countries in Africa and Asia, is seeking a Director for its programme in Nepal. Concentrated in 7 panchayats N.E. of Kathmandu, ActionAid is working with local communities in a comprehensive integrated development programme aimed at alleviating poverty within the area.

Although responsible for the overall management and direction of the programme, the Director's specific responsibilities will include liaison and negotiation with the government of Nepal, staff recruitment, planning and budgeting, organising base-line surveys and identifying new programme areas.

The successful applicant will ideally have a minimum of 5 years management experience in community development programmes, preferably in Asia, and proven ability in conducting sensitive negotiations at the highest government level. Good leadership and interpersonal communication skills and, if not yet a Nepali speaker, a willingness to learn Nepali is essential.

The contract will be for 2 years renewable.

Please submit written applications with detailed C.V. by 26.9.88 to Shirley Mansfield at ActionAid, Hamlyn House, Archway, London N19 5PS. Interviews will take place in London in early October.



